うみねこのなく頃に
竜騎士07 原作・監修
鈴木次郎 作画
07th Expansion presents. Welcome to Rokkenjima.
"WHEN THEY CRY 3"
4
Episode 2 Turn of the golden witch

うみねこのなく頃に
Episode 2
Turn of the golden witch
原作・監修 竜騎士07
作画 鈴木次郎

IS THE CULPRIT WHO KILLED JESSICA-CHAN!
WE SHOULD ASSUME THAT KANON-KUN
WAIT ...
WHOSE VOICE IS THAT...?!
KANON-KUN ISN'T THE CULPRIT ...!!

DON'T GO.
DON'T GO ...!!
PROTECT
KANON-KUN'S HONOR!!
NO!
SOMEONE
THIS
IT'S ALRIGHT. AT LEAST I WAS ABLE TO BE OF USE TO YOU IN THE END, MILADY...
KANON-KUN FOUGHT AND RISKED HIS LIFE FOR ME ...
AND DESPITE THAT...! I CAN'T STAND THIS...!
IT'S FRUS-TRATING
IT'S SAD ..!

CHAPTER 19:
[BATTLER COUNTERATTACKS]
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WITH SPHERE
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...IT'S USELESS.
IT'S ALL USELESS.

B... BATTLER-SAMA...
DID YOU FIND EVIDENCE THAT KANON-KUN ISN'T THE CULPRIT...?
THEN WHO DO YOU SUSPECT, BATTLER-KUN?
GOHDA-SAN? OR KUMASAWA-SAN?

THE TWO OF THEM... ARE PEOPLE WHO LIKE MAKING OTHERS HAPPY..!!
SOMETIMES SHE SLACKS OFF IN HER WORK.. BUT SHE'S THE KIND OF PERSON WHO ALWAYS TRIES TO MAKE THINGS FUN FOR PEOPLE
GOHDA-SAN, TOO... I'VE NEVER SEEN SOMEONE HAVE SO MUCH FUN MAKING FOOD..!
...STOP IT, AUNT ROSA...
B... BATTLER-SAMA...
I KNOW KUMASAWA BAA-CHAN WELL.
PEOPLE LIKE THAT—EVEN IF MONEY WERE TO BE THRUST IN FRONT OF THEM.
WOULD NEVER COMMIT MURDER!

ARE YOU SAYING YOU CAN PROVE THE CULPRIT ISN'T KANON?
...IN THAT CASE, BATTLER-KUN...
IT'S ACTUALLY PRETTY SIMPLE.
BEATO! REPEAT THIS!!
IF YOU CAN SAY IT
...THERE'S SOMETHING I NEARLY OVERLOOKED...

...HOH...!
THEN TRY SAYING IT!!
"KANON-KUN WAS IN POSSESSION OF A MASTER KEY."
GOHDA-SAN.
A... ALRIGHT.
ABOUT WHEN YOU CHASED AFTER JESSICA WITH KANON-KUN... THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO VERIFY... ONE MORE TIME.

WHEN JESSICA LEFT THE CHAPEL AND RAN OFF TO BEATRICE'S ROOM... AT THAT TIME...WAS THE DOOR LOCKED?
IT WAS.
HOW WAS THE DOOR OPENED?
YES... KANON-SAN GAVE HIS OWN KEY TO MILADY JESSICA.
...! I SEE. IN THAT CASE... IF JESSICA-CHAN DIDN'T GIVE THAT KEY BACK TO KANON-KUN...
...YEAH.

JESSICA SHOULD STILL...HAVE THAT KEY.
DOCTOR NANJO, WOULD YOU MIND CHECK-ING FOR US?
C... CERTAINLY ...!

...!
I FOUND IT!
IS THIS IT...?

THERE IS NO MISTAKE.
YES.
THAT IS THE MASTER KEY.
OOH...
... WITH ... THAT SAID ...
I'LL SAY IT ONCE MORE.
"KANON-KUN DOES NOT POSSESS A MASTER KEY" ...
THEREFORE HE COULD NOT HAVE LOCKED THIS ROOM!!

...BUT AS LONG AS WE DON'T SEE KANON-KUN HIMSELF... THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT HE'S SUSPICIOUS.
.....
...IT DOES SEEM THAT WAY...
..JUST STOP IT... THAT SORT OF THING ..
I WON'T DENY THAT THAT'S OUR NATURE ..
...BUT.
...BUT IN THIS HARSH WORLD, WE LEARN TO DOUBT EACH OTHER FOR THE SAKE OF LIVING ON.
HUMANS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE CREATURES THAT FUNDAMENTALLY TRUST EACH OTHER...
... HUH ..?

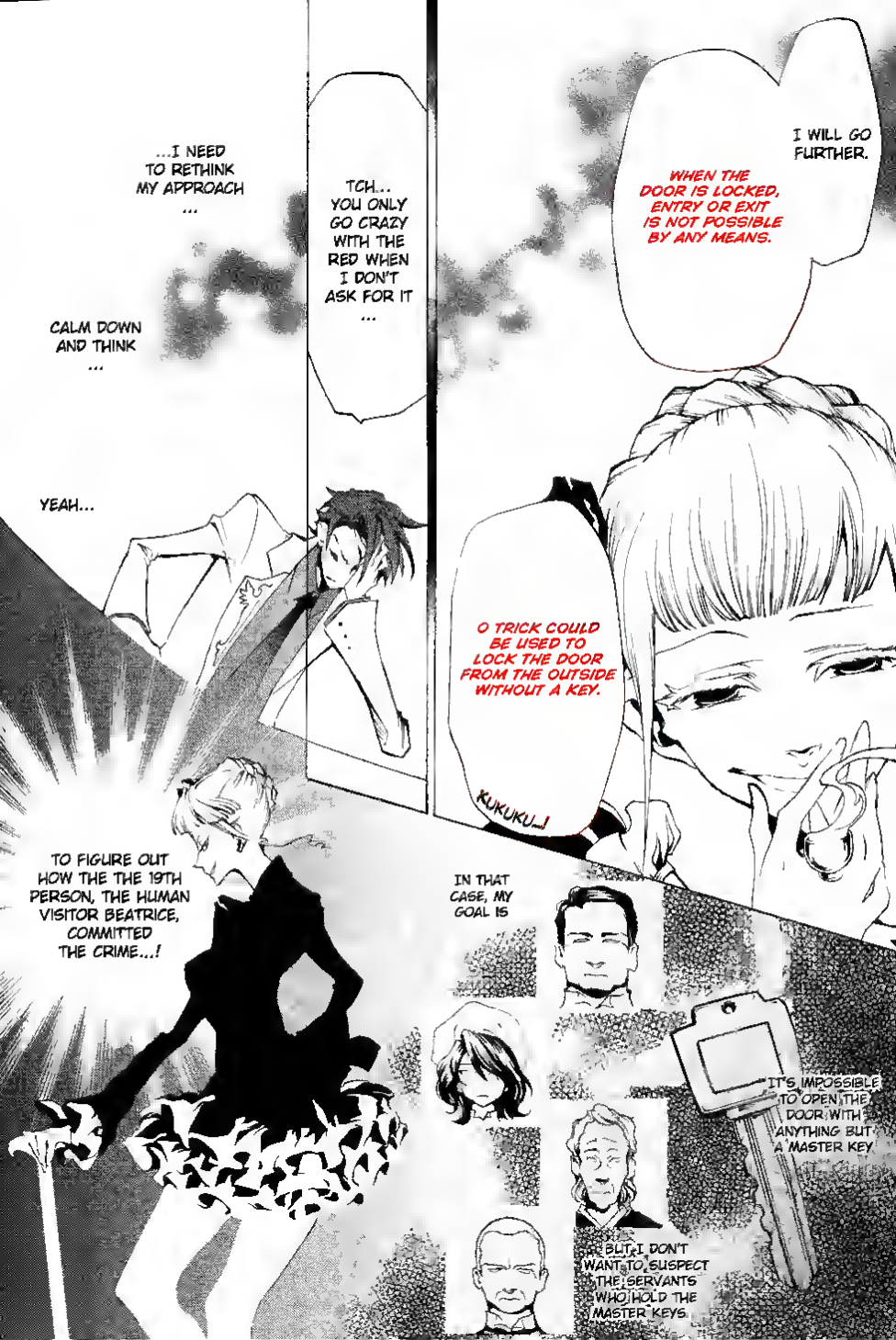
ACCUSATIONS WITHOUT PROOF ARE THE ONE THING I WON'T PERMIT!!
THE SUSPICIOUS ARE NOT GUILTY...! IF YOU'RE GOING TO ACCUSE SOMEONE OF BEING GUILTY...
PREPARE SOME PERFECT EVIDENCE!

.....
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

SPLENDID, SPLENDID... THAT WAS QUITE IMPRESSIVE.
YOU SPLENDIDLY PROVED THAT KANON COULD NOT HAVE LOCKED THIS DOOR...
THEN WHO LOCKED IT, BATTLER...? YOU DON'T WANT TO SUSPECT KUMASAWA OR GOHDA EITHER, DO YOU? KUKKUKUKUKUKU...
...TCH... SHUT UP... ...LET'S JUST GET STARTED.
FIRST I'D LIKE TO VERIFY THAT THIS FITS THE DEFINITION OF A CLOSED ROOM...
...VERY WELL.

...I'M TURNING THE CHESSBOARD AROUND RIGHT OFF THE BAT. ...REPEAT THIS.
"KANON WAS KILLED IN THIS ROOM."
FIRST OF ALL, THERE ARE ABSOLUTELY NO TYPES OF HIDDEN DDORS. THIS DOOR IS THE ONLY WAY IN OR OUT.
THE ONLY WAY TO LOCK THIS DOOR IS WITH JESSICA'S SINGLE KEY OR THE MASTER KEYS, ONLY ONE OF WHICH IS HELD BY EACH SERVANT.
THE WINDOW IS LOCKED FROM THE INSIDE.
SURE. KANON WAS KILLED IN THIS ROOM.

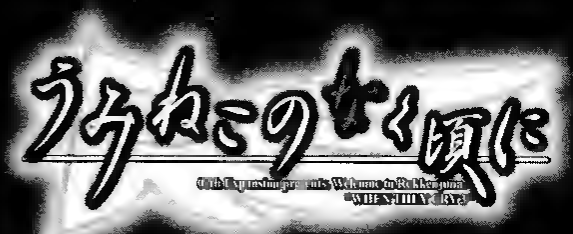
TCH...
..REPEAT THIS! "THE LAST TIME THE DOOR WAS LOCKED, IT WAS LOCKED WITH THE MASTER KEY."
I'LL KEEP GOING. REPEAT THIS. "KANON-KUN'S CORPSE IS IN THIS ROOM."
I ALSO REFUSE THIS...! KUKUKU.
...BECAUSE I ERASED HIS CORPSE WITH MAGIC...!
KUKUKU. I REFUSE.
KUKU. WHEN I HAVE THE UPPER HAND, THERE IS NO REASON FOR ME TO CREATE A RISK BY USING THE RED... THAT'S ALL IT IS...
...THAT REFUSING THING IS REALLY VAGUE...
I CAN'T TELL IF YOU'RE REFUSING BECAUSE YOU CAN'T REPEAT IT... OR IF YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO MISLEAD ME...


I WILL GO FURTHER.
WHEN THE DOOR IS LOCKED, ENTRY OR EXIT IS NOT POSSIBLE BY ANY MEANS.
O TRICK COULD BE USED TO LOCK THE DOOR FROM THE OUTSIDE WITHOUT A KEY.
KUKUKU...!
...I NEED TO RETHINK MY APPROACH ...
TCH... YOU ONLY GO CRAZY WITH THE RED WHEN I DON'T ASK FOR IT ...
CALM DOWN AND THINK ...
YEAH...
TO FIGURE OUT HOW THE THE 19TH PERSON, THE HUMAN VISITOR BEATRICE, COMMITTED THE CRIME...!
IN THAT CASE, MY GOAL IS
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO OPEN THE DOOR WITH ANYTHING BUT A MASTER KEY
BUT I DON'T WANT TO SUSPECT THE SERVANTS WHO HOLD THE MASTER KEYS.

KEE KEE
TRY IT IF YOU CAN, YOU FOOLISH MAN...
THIS ROOM WASN'T ORIGINALLY A CLOSED ROOM.
AFTER ALL, THERE ARE SIX KEYS CAPABLE OF OPENING IT... AND SEVERAL DIFFERENT OWNERS OF THOSE KEYS, CORRECT...? YOU CAN SUSPECT THEM AS MUCH AS YOU'D LIKE.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
THIS IS A CLOSED ROOM BORN FROM THE CONTRADICTIONS IN YOUR OWN THINKING.
AND YET YOU DENIED ALL THOSE POSSIBILITIES... AND CREATED A CLOSED ROOM YOURSELF...

THERE IS NO ONE ELSE TO BLAME.
YOU CLOSED THE DOOR YOURSELF ...!!
BATTLER, WHO ONCE HAD THE UPPER HAND, IS...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Episode2: Turn of the golden witch

I CAN'T IMAGINE GOHDA-SAN BEING THE CULPRIT...!
I CAN'T IMAGINE KUMASAWA-SAN BEING THE CULPRIT!
BUT
DAMMIT ...
SO EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY IF I JUST SUSPECT GOHDA-SAN AND KUMASAWA-SAN?!
IT'S USELESS!

CHAPTER 20: [WOLVES AND SHEEP PUZZLE]

...I RESIGN.
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
I DEFINITELY CAN'T ACCEPT THE EXISTENCE OF A WITCH...!
IN THAT CASE...

...HUH?
BATTLER-KUN, WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
...I GIVE UP.
I PROVED THAT KANON-KUN COULDN'T HAVE LOCKED THE DOOR.
...BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I CAN FIGURE OUT WHO KILLED JESSICA.
THANK YOU...
FOR DOING THAT FOR KANON-KUN.

...IT'S FINE. I WAS ALSO A LITTLE BIT RASH...
...AND SORRY, AUNT ROSA... I DIDN'T MEAN TO BE DEFIANT. SORRY FOR SAYING SOMETHING SO UNCOOPERATIVE.
...YOU DON'T HAVE TO THANK ME...
BECAUSE... THIS MEANS THAT ALL THE SERVANTS, INCLUDING YOU, ARE SUSPECTS.
...!
LET'S MAKE UP.

IT'S TOO BAD... I WANTED TO EAT GOHDA-SAN'S LUNCH...
YEAH... BUT IN THE WORST CASE SCENARIO,,, THE FOOD COULD'VE BEEN POISONED ...
UU! LOOK, BATTLER! THIS IS THE WOLVES AND SHEEP PUZZLE!
!

AH, THE THING AUNT ROSA MENTIONED.
THIS IS A WOLVES AND SHEEP PUZZLE.
UH-!
IT'S A PUZZLE WHERE YOU HAVE TO TAKE SEVERAL SHEEP AND WOLVES TO THE OTHER SHORE USING A BOAT.
LET'S SEE...
THERE ARE TWO WOLVES AND TWO SHEEP ON THE SHORE.
YOU TRANSPORT THEM ON THE BOAT IN GROUPS OF TWO. ...THERE CAN'T BE MORE THAN TWO ANIMALS ON THE BOAT AT ONE TIME.
BUT IF AT ANY POINT THERE ARE MORE WOLVES THAN SHEEP IN ONE PLACE...

GETS EATEN BY THE WOLVES... HUH.
THE SHEEP ...
SO THAT'S WHAT YOU MEANT...
AUNT ROSA...
...I SEE...
...SERVANTS.
GOHDA-SAN IS GOING BACK TO THE KITCHEN TO CLEAN UTENSILS. JUST TO BE SAFE, PLEASE GO WITH HIM.

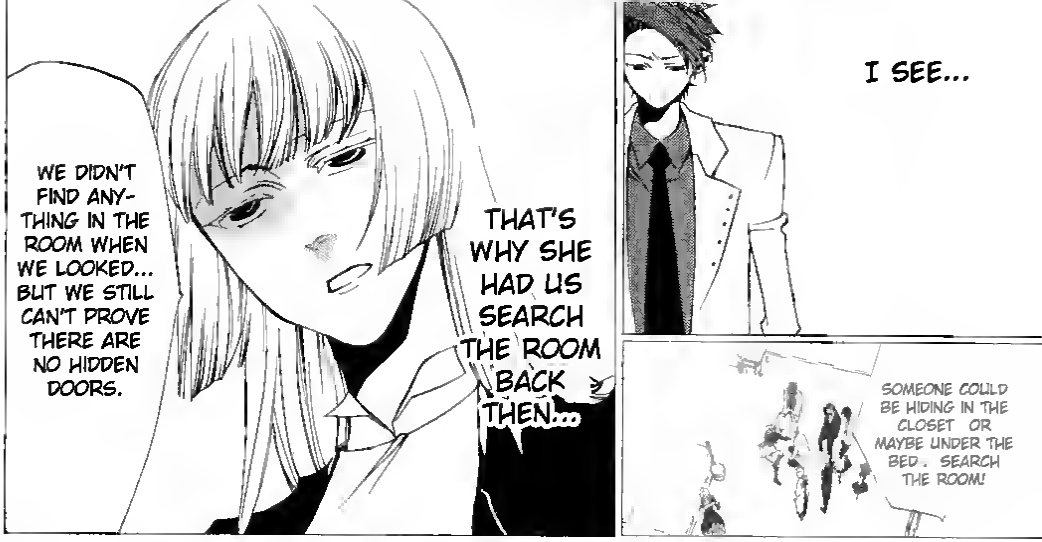
AUNT ROSA, CAN I GO WITH THEM?
THEN EXCUSE ME, GEORGE-SAMA.
SORRY, GEORGE-KUN, COULD YOU STAY BEHIND...?
...OF COURSE.
I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS SOMETHING AMONGST THE RELATIVES, SO WOULD YOU MIND LEAVING YOUR SEAT AS WELL, DOCTOR NANJO...?

DO YOU MEAN TO SAY THAT YOU'VE CHASED OUT ALL THE "WOLVES"...? AUNT ROSA.
...NOW EVERYONE HERE IS A MEMBER OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY.
THAT'LL MAKE THINGS EASIER.
...YOU'RE A QUICK THINKER, BATTLER-KUN.
...WHAT AUNT ROSA IS TRYING TO SAY...
...WOLVES? WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?

NO WAY...!
IS THAT THE SERVANTS ARE THE WOLVES OF THE "WOLVES AND SHEEP PUZZLE"... IN OTHER WORDS, THEY'RE ALL ACCOMPLICES.
...WHETHER BEATRICE IS THE TRUE CULPRIT OR NOT...
WE CAN AT LEAST SUSPECT THAT THE SERVANTS ARE CONSPIRATORS.

I'M NOT JUST SAYING THAT BECAUSE OF THE CASE WITH JESSICA-CHAN'S ROOM...
THE FIRST MURDER... WHERE NII-SAN AND THE REST WERE KILLED...
DO YOU THINK A SINGLE WOMAN COULD HAVE PULLED THAT OFF?
BUT IT'S WEIRD, AUNT ROSA.
WHY WOULD THE CULPRIT LOCK THE DOOR AFTER KILLING JESSICA?
I ALSO CONSIDERED THAT.
THEN IT'D BE INEVITABLE THAT THEY'D BE SUSPECTED SINCE THEY HOLD THE KEYS!

AND KANON-KUN STILL HASN'T BEEN CLEARED OF SUSPICION.
HUH...?
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, ISN'T IT?
...I THOUGHT THAT MAYBE SOMEONE LOCKED THE ROOM WITHOUT USING THE MASTER KEY BECAUSE THEY WANTED US TO SUSPECT THE SERVANTS...
HE COULD HAVE LOCKED THE ROOM FROM THE INSIDE
AND HIDDEN HIMSELF IN A HIDDEN DOOR SOMEWHERE IN THE ROOM THEN ESCAPED FROM THE ROOM AFTER WE LEFT.
THAT WOULD EVEN EXPLAIN WHY THERE WAS NO CORPSE.


I SEE...
SOMEONE COULD BE HIDING IN THE CLOSET OR MAYBE UNDER THE BED. SEARCH THE ROOM!
THAT'S WHY SHE HAD US SEARCH THE ROOM BACK THEN...
WE DIDN'T FIND ANYTHING IN THE ROOM WHEN WE LOOKED... BUT WE STILL CAN'T PROVE THERE ARE NO HIDDEN DOORS.

THEN IF YOU'RE ASSUMING THAT KANON-KUN ISN'T THE ONLY CULPRIT
THAT WHOLE UPROAR IN JESSICA'S ROOM ABOUT KANON-KUN BEING THE CULPRIT WAS TO TEST THE REACTIONS OF THE SERVANTS...?
YES, THAT'S RIGHT. AND IT ENDED UP MAKING THEM LOOK EVEN MORE SUSPICIOUS.
THERE'S DEFINITELY A WOLF AMONG THE SERVANTS.
THEY MAY SEEM INNOCENT MOST OF THE TIME BUT THERE'S NO DOUBT THEY'LL ATTACK WHEN THEY GET THE CHANCE

JUST LIKE WHEN THEY KILLED JESSICA-CHAN!
TH-THEN ISN'T SHANNON IN DANGER RIGHT NOW?! WE HAVE TO GO TO THE KITCHEN AND ...
SHANNON-CHAN WENT WITH GENJI-SAN TO SEE FATHER EARLIER.
SHE WAS SUPPOSEDLY ISOLATED THEN, BUT SHE WASN'T KILLED...
BECAUSE GENJI-SAN ISN'T A WOLF EITHER, RIGHT?
WRONG.

IT'S BECAUSE BOTH OF THEM ARE WOLVES!
SHANNON ISN'T THE KIND OF PERSON WHO WOULD TAKE PART IN SUCH A WICKED CRIME!! PLEASE TAKE BACK WHAT YOU JUST SAID!
...IT'S NOT LIKE...I WANT TO SAY THESE THINGS...
BUT YOU KNOW... I'M A MOTHER.
I'M MARIA'S MOTHER.

AND I'M ALSO MOTHER TO THE TWO OF YOU... SO...I JUST WANT TO WARN YOU NOT TO LET YOUR GUARD DOWN...
ALWAYS STAY WHERE I CAN SEE YOU...
...AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, YOU'LL BE OBSERVING US TO MAKE SURE WE'RE NOT WOLVES...
I WILL PROTECT YOU.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, AUNT ROSA? CAN *YOU* PROVE YOU'RE NOT A "WOLF"?

WHA...
WITH THIS.
YEAH, I CAN.

LIKE... BEATRICE SUDDENLY APPEARED OUTSIDE THE WINDOW AND FIRED A GUN.
I'D JUST SHOOT THE TWO OF YOU AND COME UP WITH AN EXCUSE LATER.
JUST THINK ABOUT IT. IF I WERE THE CULPRIT...
DO YOU THINK I'D LET THIS CHANCE ESCAPE NOW THAT THE SERVANTS HAVE LEFT?
HEH ...
...I'M SORRY, YOU TWO...
...THAT'S ONE HELL OF A RECK-LESS ARGUMENT, BUT IT DOES MAKE SENSE...

I'M NOT PROUD OF THE WAY I'M ACTING RIGHT NOW.
FOR THAT PURPOSE, I'D BECOME A DEMON.
THAT'S ALL IT IS.
AS A MOTHER, I WANT TO PROTECT EVERYONE FROM THIS MALICIOUS CULPRIT...
BUT TRY TO UNDER-STAND.

I MADE IT WITH ONLY SEALED INGREDIENTS, SO THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT POISON.
WHAT A GOOD SMELL...
IT REALLY IS... GOHDA-SAN'S COOKING IS TRULY DELICIOUS.
TAKING A BREATHER WHEN NO ONE IS LOOKING IS SOMETHING SERVANTS KNOW HOW TO DO, AFTER ALL...
HO HO HO
AS IT WOULD GO AGAINST ROSA-SAMA'S ORDERS, IT WOULD BE BEST TO GIVE IT UP. LET ONLY THOSE WHO WANT TO DRINK IT DO SO.
...I WANTED TO SERVE IT TO THE GUESTS IF POSSIBLE, BUT...

SFX: THUD

WH...WHO'S THERE...?
I... IT'S NOT MY IMAGINATION... IS IT...

...YES ...DOCTOR NANJO AND THE WOMEN, PLEASE STAND BACK.
...
GENJI -SAN
...

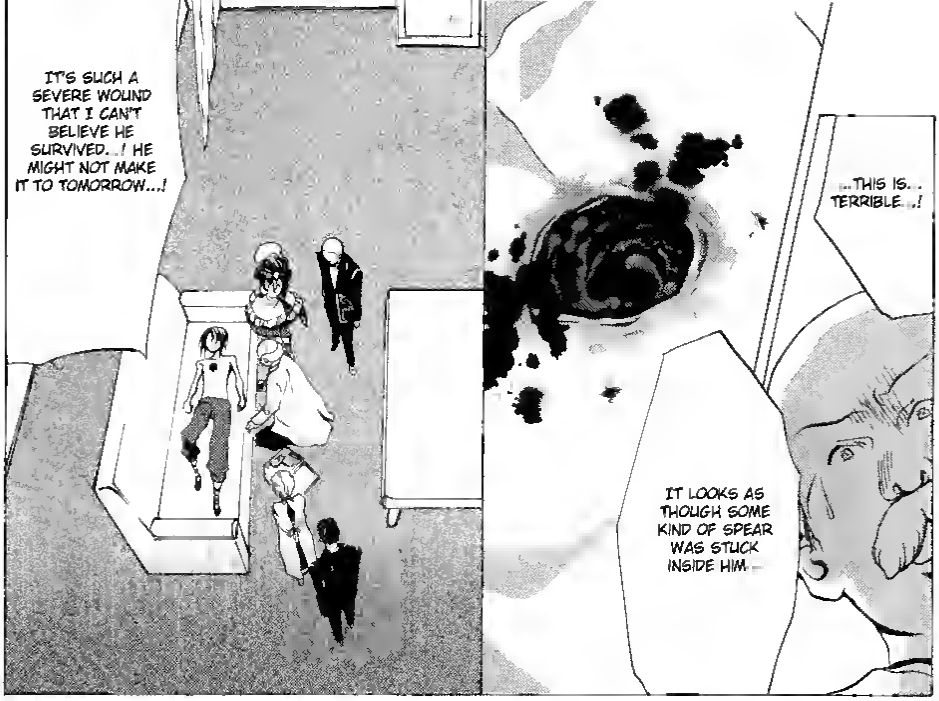
EEK!
EEP!

!!!
KA...

KANON
-KUN
...?!

OH NO... KANON-KUN! KANON-KUN ...!
KA... KANON-SAN...! ARE YOU ALRIGHT...?!
KUMASAWA, REPORT TO ROSA-SAMA THAT WE FOUND KANON!
LET'S CARRY HIM TO THE SERVANT ROOM!
A... ALRIGHT ...!

WAIT ...
W...
DON'T...
TELL ROSA-SAMA ...
... NEVER MIND THAT FOR NOW.
FIRST LET'S TAKE KANON TO THE SERVANT ROOM...!
WH... WHAT DO YOU MEAN? KANON-KUN ...


IT'S SUCH A SEVERE WOUND THAT I CAN'T BELIEVE HE SURVIVED..! HE MIGHT NOT MAKE IT TO TOMORROW...!
...THIS IS... TERRIBLE...!
IT LOOKS AS THOUGH SOME KIND OF SPEAR WAS STUCK INSIDE HIM...

D...DON'T TALK, KANON-KUN! YOU'LL OPEN UP YOUR WOUND...!
UH...
COUGH
COUGH
R... ROSA-SAMA... DID THIS...T... TO ME...AND MILADY...

CURSE YOU, ROSA... HOW DARE YOU KILL MILADY!!
I'LL KILL YOU... I'LL KILL YOU ...!!
.....
WH... WHAT DID YOU SAY ...?
I...IT CAN'T BE...! OOOOH...
IF THAT'S TRUE THEN BATTLER-SAMA AND GEORGE-SAMA ARE IN DANGER...!

SHANNON-SAN?!

HO...HOHOHO... NO WAY... AS LONG AS WE DON'T PROVOKE HER, EVEN ROSA-SAMA WOULDN'T...
W...WE HAVE TO MOVE QUICKLY... I GET THE FEELING THAT WE WERE DRIVEN OUT BY ROSA-SAMA...
SHE COULD BE KILLING BATTLER-SAMA AND GEORGE-SAMA AS WE SPEAK...!
NO, SHE DEFINITELY SAID IT.

SHE SAID
THAT SHE'D
KILL US ALL.

IN ORDER TO HAVE MILADY'S FORTUNE ALL TO HERSELF, SHE PLANS TO MASSACRE ALL OF US. SHE SAID IT CLEARLY.
SHE WILL KILL US ALL.

K... KANON-SAN... ARE YOU... ALRIGHT?
IT'S FINE.
OH, THIS?

K...
KANON-SAN
...?
IT DOESN'T HURT AT ALL... IT'S NOT A SERIOUS INJURY...
SEE...

EEEEEEK!!
KANON-SAN, STOP, STOP...!!
LOOK...

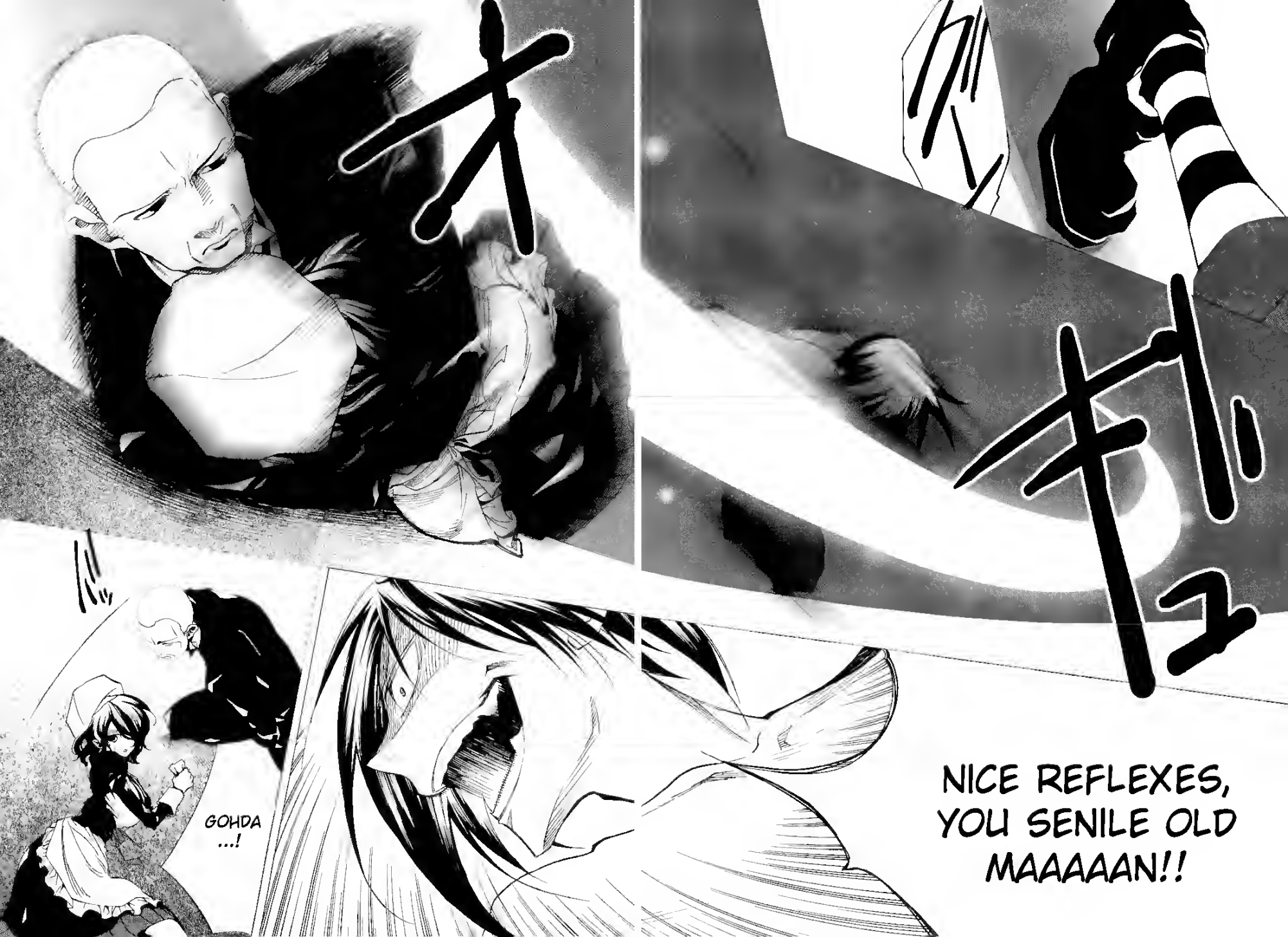
IT'S NOT A DEEP WOUND AT ALL.

HEY, NEE-SAN... I'M ON THE VERGE OF DEATH HERE. WHERE'D YOU GO...?
I WENT TO THE BOILER ROOM. I HAD TO FIND SOMETHING. ...MORE IMPORTANTLY, I'D LIKE TO CONFIRM SOMETHING.
ARE YOU *REALLY* KANON-KUN?

A HANDKERCHIEF WITH A SPIDER'S WEB WIPED ONTO IT.
...WHAT'S THAT?
H...HUH...?!
IF YOU'RE KANON-KUN, YOU SHOULD BE FINE, BUT...I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NOT LIKE IT IF SPIDERS ARE YOUR NATURAL ENEMY...!

...HUH...?

TSK!


GOHDA ...!
NICE REFLEXES, YOU SENILE OLD MAAAAAN!!

!!
OOOOOOH!
LET GO... YOU FATASS ...!

フォォ
THANKS.
GENJI-SAMA, TAKE THIS.

ST...
OP...
KEEP
THAT
AAAAAAAAAAH!
AWAY
FROM
ME...

ドドド

...GOHDA, ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
I... I AM FINE ..
B... BLIT...
I... I DEFINITELY...
WHAT DID WE JUST SEE...?! WHAT JUST HAPPENED...?!

I DEFINITELY PUSHED THAT THING AGAINST THE WALL WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS...!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND ...
WHAT JUST HAPPENED ...!

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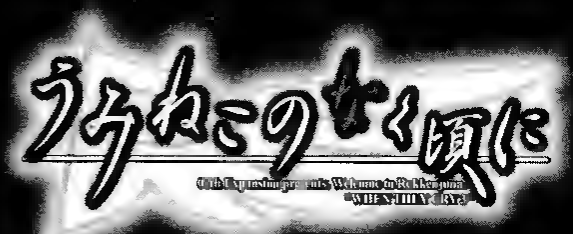
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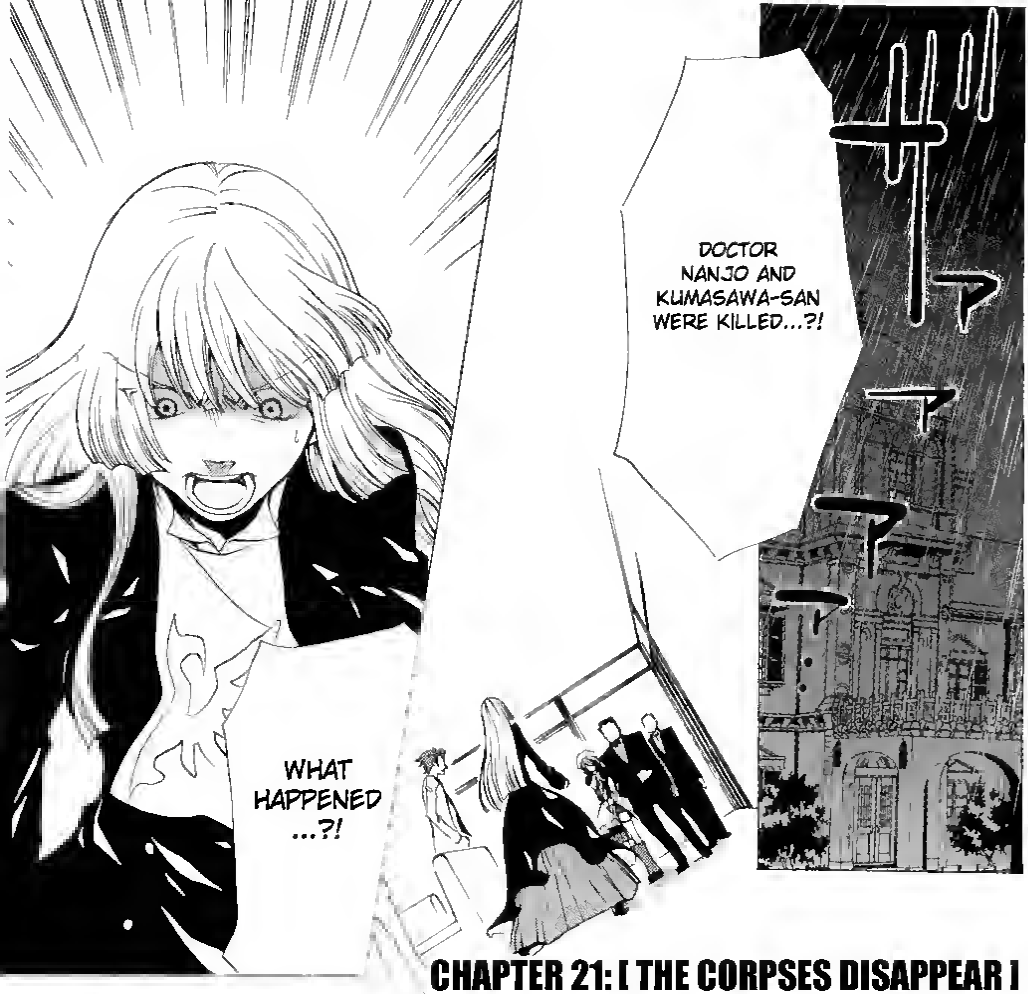


CHAPTER 21: [THE CORPSES DISAPPEAR]

CALM DOWN, AUNT ROSA!
THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH, GOHDA-SAN. PLEASE TELL US EVERYTHING FROM THE BEGINNING.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! YOU MUST HAVE EITHER MET UP WITH BEATRICE OR KANON-KUN, WHOSE LOCATIONS ARE UNKNOWN!

...SOMEONE ...CAME...TO THE BACK DOOR...
THEY WERE... COVERED IN BLOOD...AND WE TRIED TO GIVE THEM TREATMENT IMMEDIATELY ...
I'M ASKING YOU WHO THAT WAS!!

...GENJI-SAN, YOU SAW IT, DIDN'T YOU? WHO WAS IT?
I DON'T KNOW...!
WHAT WAS THAT...
...
I THOUGHT I KNEW AT FIRST... BUT...
.....

SEE? I KNEW IT!! HE IS ALIVE!
...AT FIRST, WE ALL BELIEVED IT WAS KANON.
...DOES "AT FIRST"... MEAN THAT YOUR OPINION CHANGED LATER ON...?
...YES.

I CANNOT EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED NEXT WITH WORDS.
...HE KILLED DOCTOR NANJO AND KUMASAWA. ...THEN HE DISAPPEARED.
AT THAT TIME
HE WAS MOST CERTAINLY NOT KANON.

...
GOT IT.
...YES...
DO YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY?
YES! THAT'S RIGHT!! IT IS EXACTLY AS GENJI-SAN SAYS...!
LET'S ALL GO SEE THE SERVANTS' ROOM TOGETHER.
WE WON'T GET ANYWHERE LIKE THIS.

UU...
...MARIA-CHAN, WAIT HERE WITH ME.
HUH...?

WHAT...?
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHAT'S WRONG?
DID SOMETHING
HAPPEN...?!
WHAT'S...
GOING ON
HERE...?
!!
T...
THE TWO
CORPSES
...

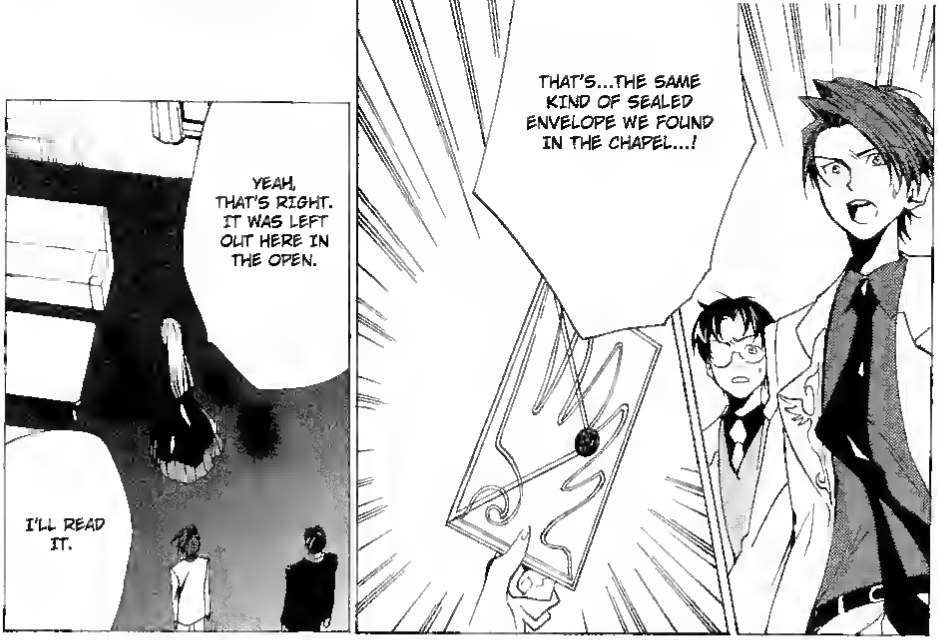
...SO IT'S THE SAME AS JESSICA'S ROOM...
PEOPLE HAVE DISAPPEARED FROM INSIDE A CLOSED ROOM AGAIN...!
ARE GONE ...!!
H...HOW COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED ...?!
RIGHT HERE ...!
THE TWO WERE CERTAINLY ...

.....
I CAN'T... UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON ANYMORE...!
BUT EVEN ASSUMING KANON-KUN IS THE CULPRIT, HE DOESN'T HAVE A MASTER KEY ANYMORE..!
NO... KANON-KUN GOT HIS HANDS ON A MASTER KEY.
.....HUH?
REMEMBER? WE FOUND HIS MASTER KEY IN THE POCKET OF JESSICA-CHAN'S CORPSE.
!!
THEN WHO WAS IN POSSESSION OF THE KEY AFTER THAT?

これですかな…？
THAT'S RIGHT... IT WAS DOCTOR NANJO...

...QUIET.
PLEASE BELIEVE US, ROSA-SAMA...! I SWEAR WE AREN'T LYING...

WITH THIS.
WHOEVER HID THE CORPSES IS CONFESSING THAT THEY CARRIED THE CORPSES SOMEWHERE ELSE.



MEMBERS OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY,
I WONDER IF YOU HAVE FINALLY REACHED
A CLIMAX IN SOLVING THE EPITAPH'S
RIDDLE OF THE GOLD.
THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN ALL STOP ME
IS TO SOLVE THE RIDDLE OF THE EPITAPH.
NO MATTER WHAT OTHER METHODS YOU USE,
YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO STOP ME OR
THE CEREMONY. I ASK THAT YOU ALL
NOT MISTAKE WHAT YOUR GOAL SHOULD BE.
TRYING TO SEARCH FOR ME IS USELESS.
TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM ME IS USELESS.
TRYING TO DENY ME IS USELESS.

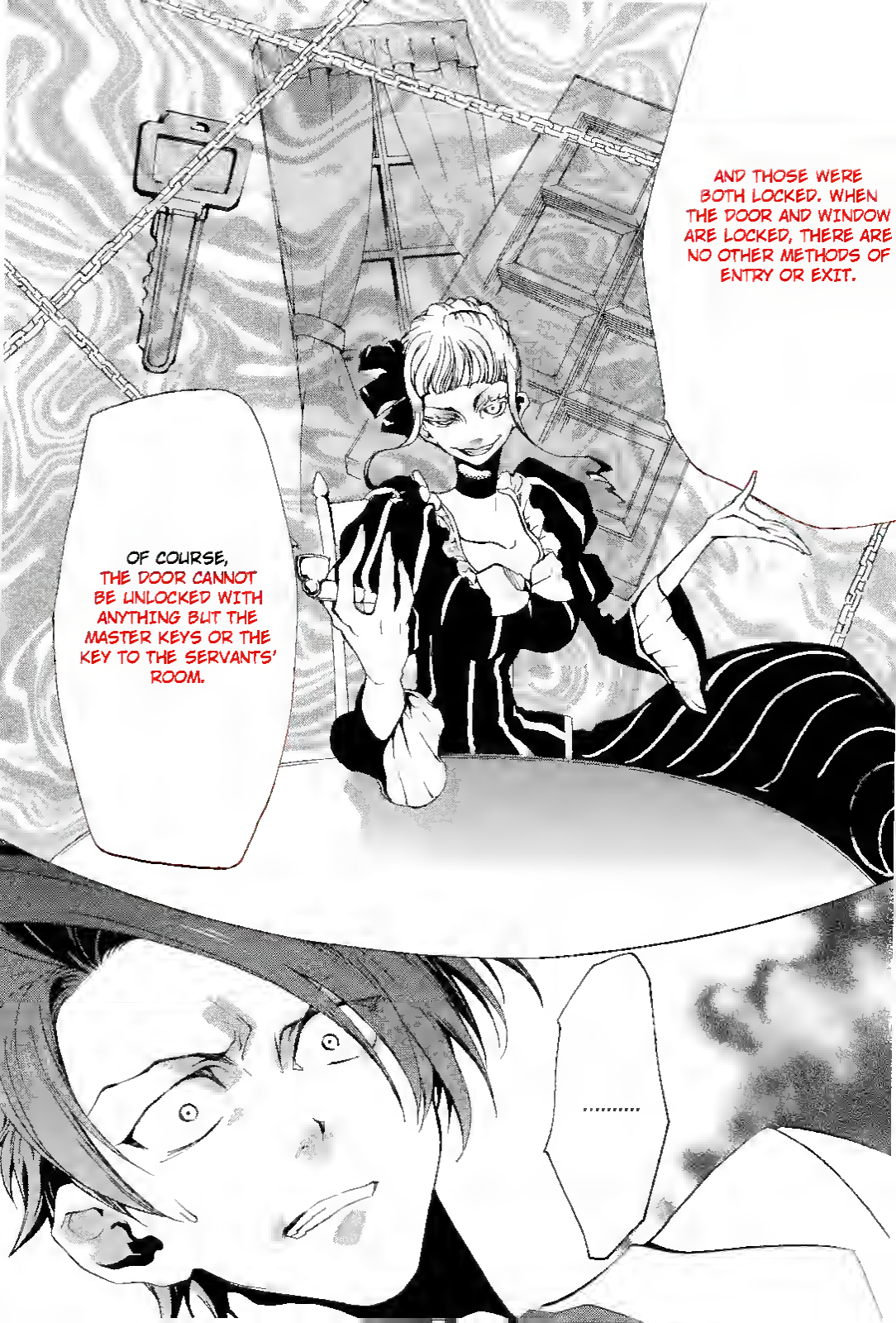
--BEATRICE THE GOLDEN

THESE KEYS BELONGS TO ALL OF YOU, SO I WILL RETURN THEM.
I WILL RETURN THEM LATER, SO PLEASE PARDON ME.
...P.S. I AM BORROWING THE TWO CORPSES FOR THE CEREMONY.
...ALSO.

チャリ…
AGAIN...?!
SO THIS MEANS... THESE TWO KEYS ARE KUMASAWA-SAN'S MASTER KEY
AND KANON-KUN'S MASTER KEY THAT WAS FOUND IN JESSICA'S POCKET...
QUIT SCREWING WITH ME ...

I WON'T SAY IT IN RED, ALRIGHT...?
YOU MEAN I CAN'T SUSPECT ANYONE BUT THE SERVANTS HOLDING THE MASTER KEYS AGAIN...?!
I WON'T DENY THE POSSIBLITY THAT, WHEN THEY LOCKED THE DOOR AND LEFT, THERE WAS SOMEONE HIDING IN THIS ROOM...!

BUT THEN THEY COULDN'T HAVE LOCKED THE DOOR! THEY WENT OUT OF THEIR WAY TO LEAVE THE MASTER KEYS, THEY'D GOTTEN THEIR HANDS ON HERE.
IT'S NOT AS THOUGH SOMEONE COULDN'T HAVE HIDDEN UNDER THE BED UNTIL GENJI AND THE REST PASSED BY, THEN CARRIED THE CORPSES SOMEWHERE ELSE.
THAT'S RIGHT! WHAT ABOUT THE ORIGINAL KEY TO THE SERVANTS ROOM?!
ALL THE OTHER CONDITIONS ARE THE SAME AS USUAL. ENTRY OR EXIT IS IMPOSSIBLE EXCEPT THROUGH EITHER THE SINGLE DOOR OR THE SINGLE WINDOW.
AH. YES. THAT IS IN THE KEY BOX INSIDE THE SERVANTS' ROOM


AND THOSE WERE BOTH LOCKED. WHEN THE DOOR AND WINDOW ARE LOCKED, THERE ARE NO OTHER METHODS OF ENTRY OR EXIT.
OF COURSE, THE DOOR CANNOT BE UNLOCKED WITH ANYTHING BUT THE MASTER KEYS OR THE KEY TO THE SERVANTS' ROOM.
.....

THINK... THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING.
DAMMIT...!! IT'S USELESS... IT'S ALL USELESS...!
TURN THE CHESSBOARD AROUND!
...THEY CARRIED AWAY THE CORPSES, LEFT THE LETTER, AND LOCKED THE DOOR...
THAT'S RIGHT...
AND THERE ARE NO HIDDEN DOORS... IN OTHER WORDS, THE CULPRIT COULDN'T ESCAPE.
THIS...

...BEATO.
I WANT TO VERIFY SOMETHING ABOUT THE DEFINITION OF THE HIDDEN DOORS YOU MENTIONED EARLIER.
IT'S AN ANSWER ...
ISN'T ANOTHER QUESTION ...

...SO IF YOU CAN'T LEAVE THE ROOM THROUGH IT, IT ISN'T A HIDDEN DOOR?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING OF, BUT...
HIDDEN DOORS ARE ENTRANCES OR EXITS THAT CANNOT BE FOUND BY PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW ABOUT THEM.
HOH... HERE IT COMES.
...I'VE ONLY BEEN THINKING ABOUT HOW THE CULPRIT COULD'VE ESCAPED THE CLOSED ROOMS... HOWEVER.

IN OTHER WORDS, SOMETHING LIKE A "HIDDEN SHELF" OR A "SECRET CLOSET" IS NOT COVERED BY THE DEFINITION OF A "HIDDEN DOOR"!
THAT WAS WRONG!
EVEN THE CULPRIT COULDN'T ESCAPE THE CLOSED ROOMS!
AND I JUST CONFIRMED WITH YOU THAT SOMETHING THAT WOULDN'T BE NOTICED BY PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT, BUT ISN'T AN EXIT OR ENTRANCE, IS NOT COVERED IN THE DEFINITION OF A HIDDEN DOOR!
THE THIRD PERSON FROM THE CASE WITH JESSICA'S ROOM IS HIDING IN THIS ROOM, AND WE'RE OVERLOOKING THEM!

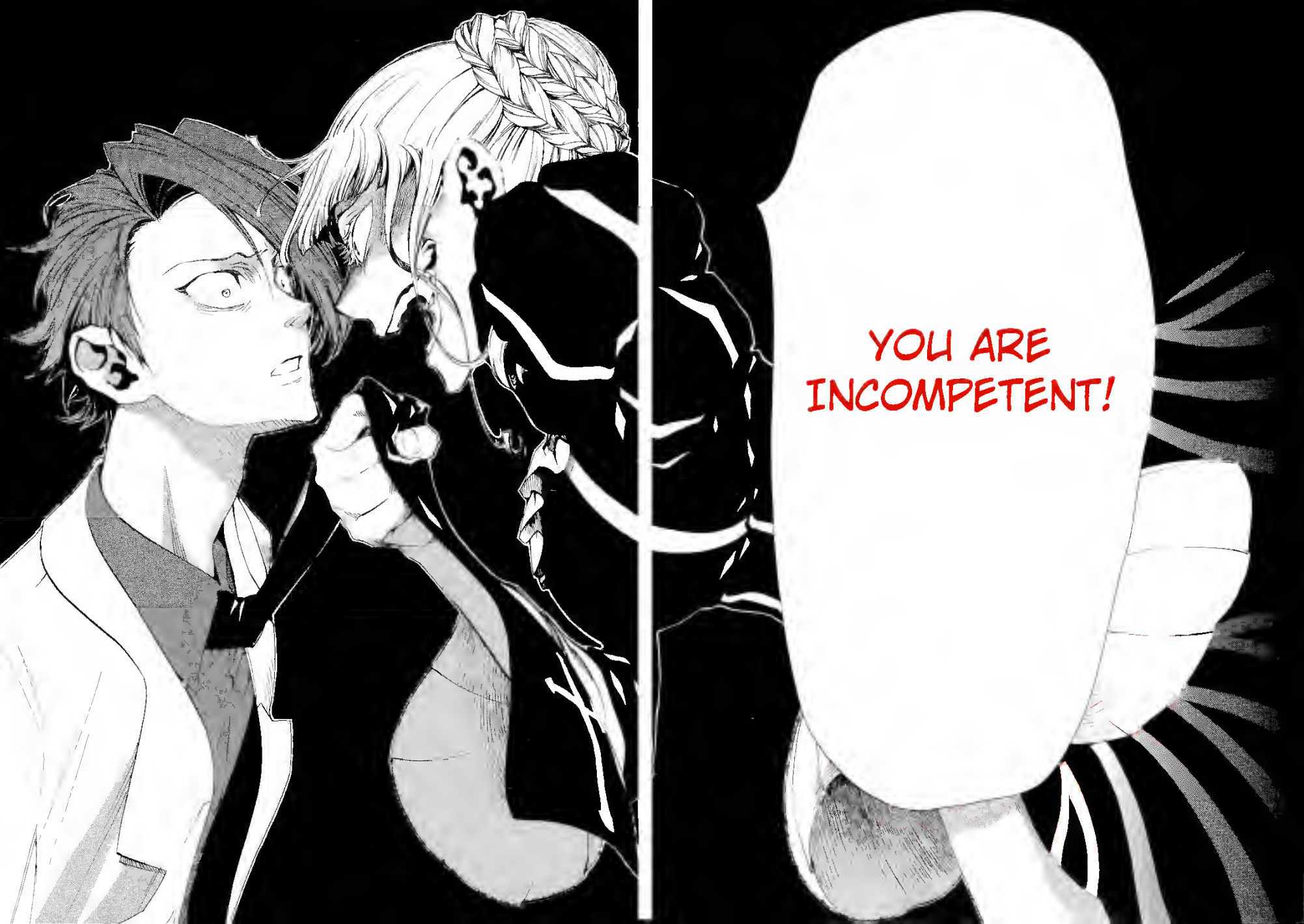
"THERE IS NO ONE IN THIS ROOM OTHER THAN US"!
"US" MEANING ME, GEORGE-ANIKI, MARIA, AUNT ROSA, GENJI-SAN, GOHDA-SAN, AND SHANNON-CHAN!
I'VE FINALLY STARTED TO SEE IT!
TAKE THIS, BEATO! REPEAT THIS!
AND THAT MEANS THAT EVEN NOW! THE CULPRIT IS HIDING IN THE SERVANTS' ROOM!
HOW PATHETIC. IT WAS JUST SOME STUPID WORDPLAY ALL ALONG!

I DON'T HAVE TO SUSPECT ANYONE!!
WITCHES DON'T EXIST!
I'LL KEEP GOING! REPEAT THIS!
IF YOU'RE GONNA REFUSE, THEN SAY YOU REFUSE!
THIS WILL RESOLVE EVERY-THING!
I DON'T KNOW WHERE OR HOW THEY'RE HIDING.
BUT IF THIS IS TRUE, THEN INCLUDING THE CASE OF JES-SICA'S ROOM

THERE IS NO ONE IN THIS ROOM EXCEPT ALL OF YOU.
ALL OF YOU" REFERS TO BATTLER, GEORGE, MARIA, ROSA, GENJI, SHANNON AND GOHDA

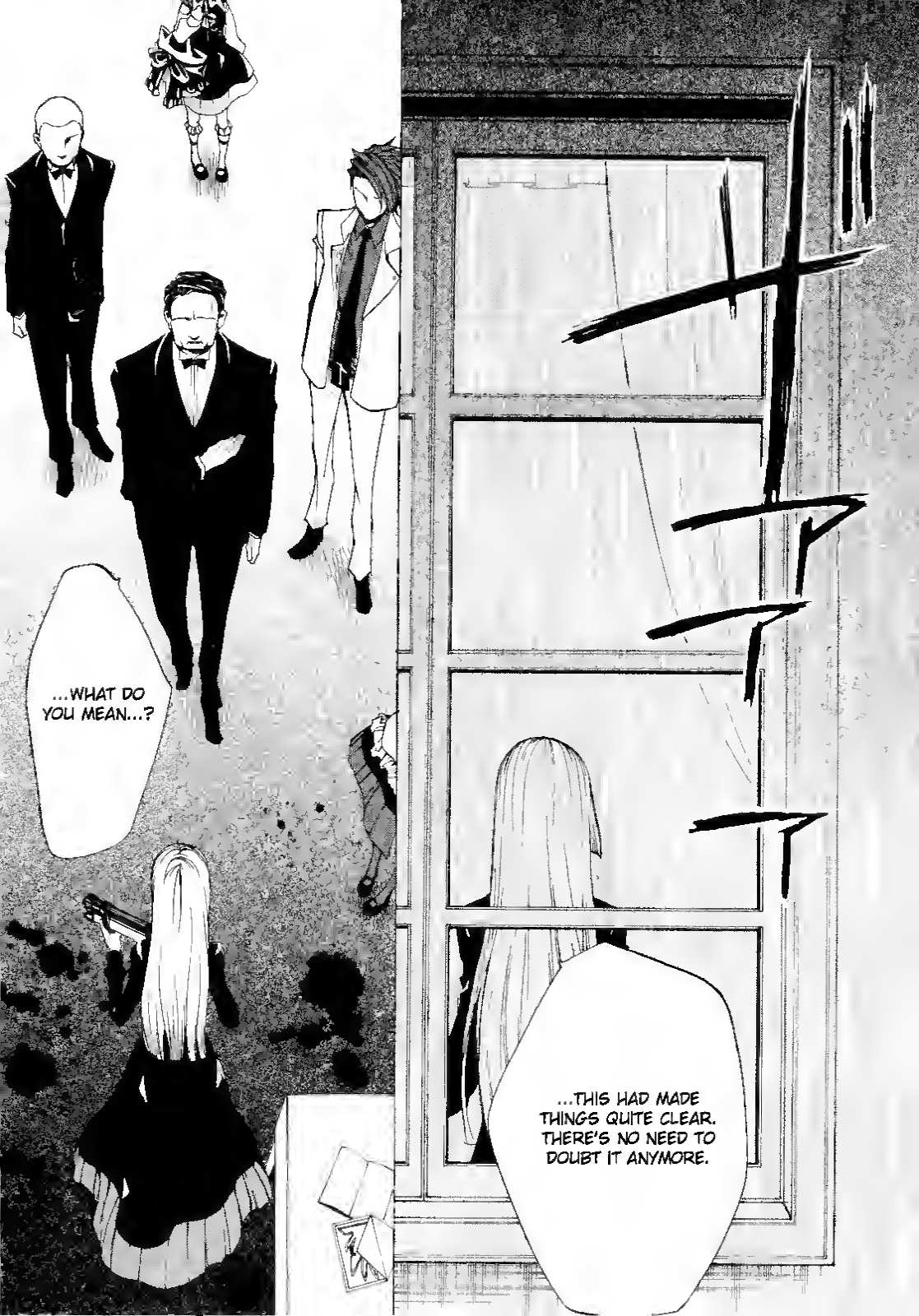
...WHA...
LET'S GO BACK TO JESSICA'S ROOM.
WHEN JESSICA'S CORPSE WAS DISCOVERED, THE ONLY ONES IN JESSICA'S ROOM WERE BATTLER, GEORGE, MARIA, ROSA, GENJI, GOHDA, SHANNON, AND KUMASAWA.
AH, WHOOPS.
OF COURSE, THE CORPSE OF JESSICA IS ALSO INCLUDED.

THERE IS NO WAY TO LOCK THE WINDOWS FROM THE OUTSIDE.
WHILE I'M AT IT, I WILL SAY THIS:
THEREFORE, IN BOTH THE CASE OF JESSICA'S ROOM AND THE CASE OF THE SERVANTS' ROOM, THERE WERE NO HUMANS THAT YOU WERE NOT AWARE OF.
NO ONE IS HIDING.
I WILL ALSO SAY THIS: THERE IS NO WAY TO LOCK THE DOOR FROM THE OUTSIDE WITHOUT USING THE KEY.


YOU ARE
INCOMPETENT!

HAHAHAH

INTO A DEEP RED SEA...
HI HI HI HI HI HI HI


...WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?
...THIS HAD MADE THINGS QUITE CLEAR. THERE'S NO NEED TO DOUBT IT ANYMORE.

...AND BEATRICE LEFT US A LETTER KINDLY CONFESSING THAT SHE CARRIED AWAY THE CORPSES.
THE TWO WHO YOU ALL CLAIMED WERE DEAD AREN'T HERE.
... THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS.
I'M SICK OF THIS FARCE!
AS LONG AS I CAN'T FIND THEIR CORPSES, THERE'S NO WAY I'LL ACCEPT THAT THOSE TWO WERE KILLED.
F...FARCE...? WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?!

THEY'RE PRETENDING THEY WERE KILLED WHILE HIDING SOMEWHERE IN THE MANSION! ALL SO THEY CAN ATTACK US!
W...WAIT, AUNT ROSA. WHAT DOES THAT..
DOCTOR NANJO AND KUMASAWA-SAN AREN'T DEAD! THEY'RE ALIVE!
ROSA-SAMA! WE, THE SERVANTS OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY, ALL SWEAR THAT THAT IS NOT THE CASE!

YOU WERE ALL BLINDED BY THE GOLD AND I BOUGHT OFF BY THE WITCH, WEREN'T YOU?!
UNTIL DOCTOR NANJO AND KUMASAWA-SAN'S CORPSES ARE FOUND, THE FACT THAT YOU ALL ARE WOLVES CAN'T BE DENIED!
YOU!
AND YOU!

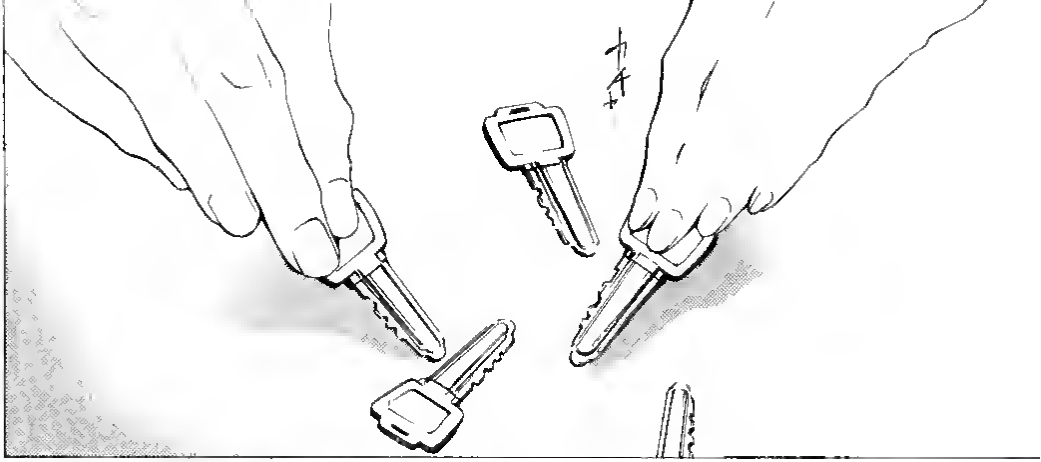
NO WAY... THAT'S...
SHUT UP!
ROSA-SAMA...! WE...WOULD NEVER...
THAT'S TOO CRUEL ...
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'D RETURN YOUR 10 YEARS OF INDEBTEDNESS WITH SUCH MALICE!
AUNT ROSA! THAT'S AN INSULT! THEY WERE JUST TRYING TO REPORT WHAT HAPPENED TO US!

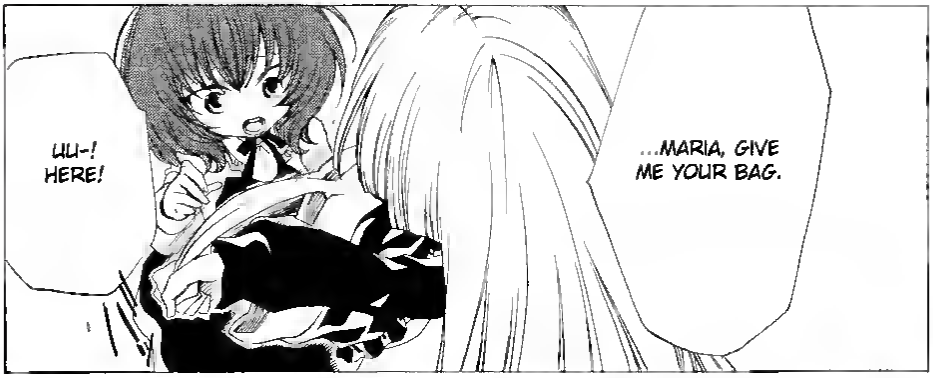
WHY DID THINGS TURN OUT THIS WAY...
WA...
WAAAAAAAAAH...
ROSA-SAMA...
WHY...

WHAT ROSA-SAMA IS SAYING IS LOGICAL.
UNTIL THEIR CORPSES ARE FOUND, DOCTOR NANJO AND KUMASAWA'S INNOCENCE CANNOT BE PROVEN.
...GET A HOLD OF YOURSELVES.

NO MATTER HOW WE ARE RECEIVED BY OUR MASTERS, WE MUST CONTINUE TO SERVE UNTIL OUR LAST MOMENTS.
WE ARE FURNITURE THAT SERVE UNDER THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY.

...YOU'RE A REAL MODEL SERVANT.
I FEEL TERRIBLE... THAT I HAVE TO SUSPECT EVEN YOU
—I BELIEVE WE ARE ENTRUSTED WITH THESE AS A SYMBOL OF TRUST.
IF WE HAVE LOST THAT, THEN I THINK IT IS ONLY RIGHT FOR US TO RETURN THEM
YOU TWO.




LILI-!
HERE!
...MARIA, GIVE
ME YOUR BAG.

YEAH, I'M SATISFIED.
...NOW YOU HOLD ALL THE MASTER KEYS, AUNT ROSA.
EVEN IF I CAN'T TRUST ANYONE ELSE
ARE YOU SATISFIED ...?
I CAN AT LEAST TRUST MYSELF...
NOW I DON'T HAVE TO SUSPECT ANYONE...! AHAHAHA HAHAHAHA!

SHE DOESN'T NEED KEYS.
...KEYS DON'T MATTER. BEATRICE CAN OPEN DOORS WITH MAGIC.
KIHI HIHI HIHI HIHI HIHI HIHI
SO IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO HAS THEM OR WHO DOESN'T.

SFX: AHAHAHAHAHAHA
あはははは！

DIDN'T I TELL YOU ...
TO STOP LAUGHING LIKE THAT?!

...WHAT IS IT, BATTLER-KUN?
.....

...JUST...
JUST STOP IT, AUNT ROSA.
...MARIA WAS RIGHT ALL ALONG...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?

MARIA... SORRY FOR DOUBTING YOU...
SORRY... FOR NOT BELIEVING...
THIS WAS ALL...THE WORK OF A WITCH...
TRICKS AND CLOSED ROOMS... NONE OF THOSE MATTERED AT ALL...
BECAUSE I WOULDN'T BELIEVE THAT... IT'S BEEN SO PAINFUL...
AND SO SAD ...

THE WITCH AND THE 19TH PERSON,
THE MURDERS WERE ALL COMMITTED BY BEATRICE,
IN ACCORDANCE TO A DISTURBING CEREMONY.
ISN'T THAT GOOD ENOUGH ...?

I DON'T

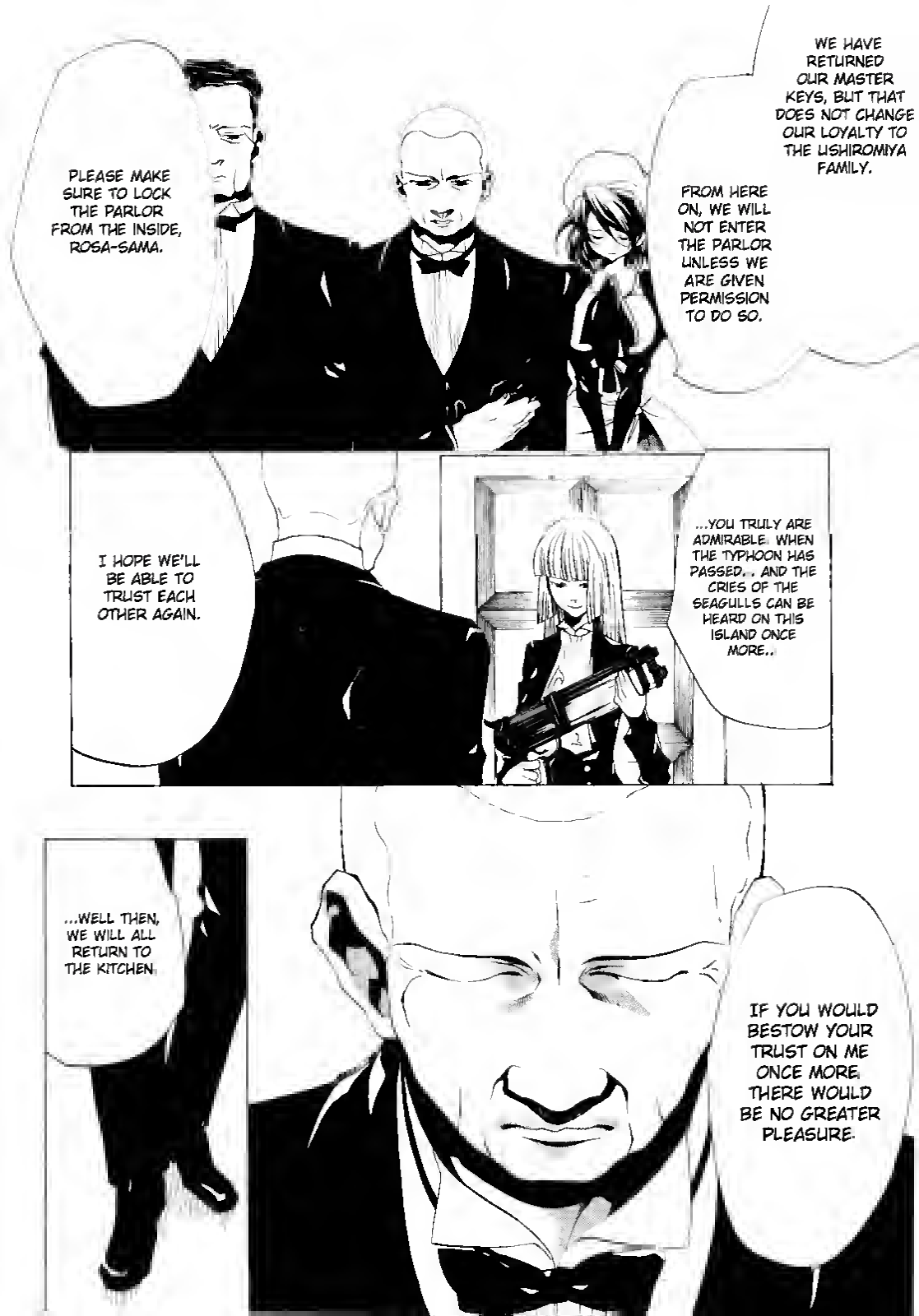
NEED AN ANSWER

ANYMORE

I DON'T ...
I DON'T WANT TO DOUBT ANYONE ...
WANT TO SUSPECT ANYONE ANYMORE.
BATTLER ...

...IT'S NOT SCARY.
LET'S HOLD HANDS... AND ALWAYS BE TOGETHER, OKAY...?
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF.
YOU COULDN'T SEE HER BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T BELIEVE.
...THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH, BATTLER...
...BEATRICE "EXISTED."
SINCE YOU BELIEVE THAT, I'M SURE YOU'LL BE INVITED TO THE GOLDEN LAND.

FROM THE START, BEATO JUST WANTED US TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM AND PLAY TOGETHER.
LET'S THINK ABOUT THE RIDDLE OF THE EPITAPH TOGETHER.
JUST BELIEVED IN THE WITCH...
YEAH... THAT'S RIGHT... WE SHOULD'VE...


PLEASE MAKE SURE TO LOCK THE PARLOR FROM THE INSIDE, ROSA-SAMA.
WE HAVE RETURNED OUR MASTER KEYS, BUT THAT DOES NOT CHANGE OUR LOYALTY TO THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY.
FROM HERE ON, WE WILL NOT ENTER THE PARLOR UNLESS WE ARE GIVEN PERMISSION TO DO SO.
I HOPE WE'LL BE ABLE TO TRUST EACH OTHER AGAIN.
...YOU TRULY ARE ADMIRABLE. WHEN THE TYPHOON HAS PASSED,. AND THE CRIES OF THE SEAGULLS CAN BE HEARD ON THIS ISLAND ONCE MORE..
...WELL THEN, WE WILL ALL RETURN TO THE KITCHEN.
IF YOU WOULD BESTOW YOUR TRUST ON ME ONCE MORE, THERE WOULD BE NO GREATER PLEASURE.

ONCE THE PERFORMANCE ENDS AND THE CURTAINS COME DOWN...
I'M SURE WE'LL BE ABLE TO JOIN HANDS ONCE AGAIN.
...I'LL BE PRAYING THAT YOU ALL STAY SAFE UNTIL THE TYPHOON PASSES.
THIS IS ALL A CONCERTO OF WIND AND RAIN PLAYED BY THE TYPHOON.

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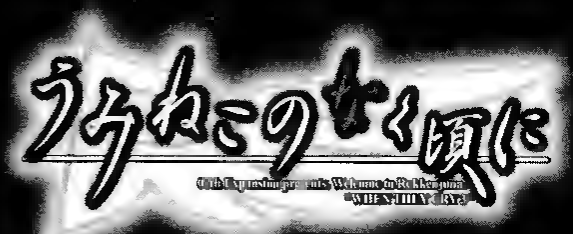
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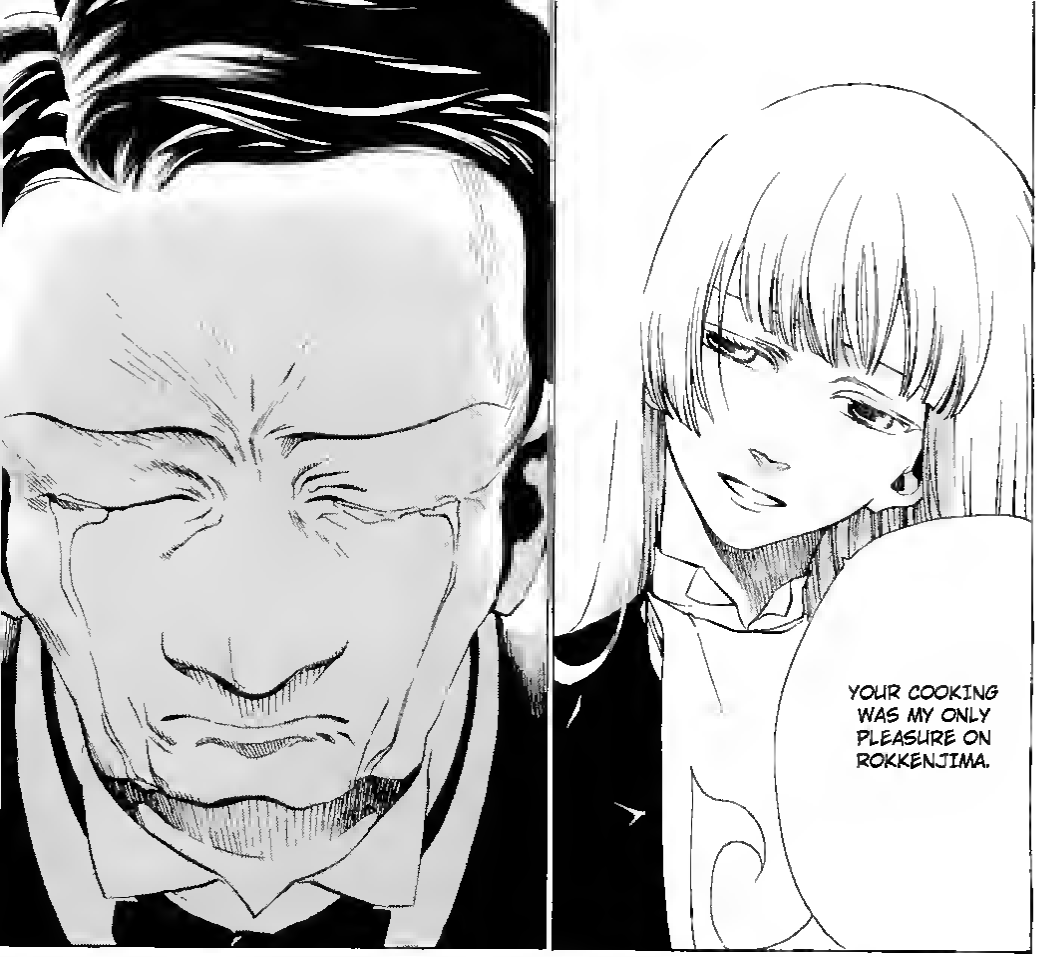
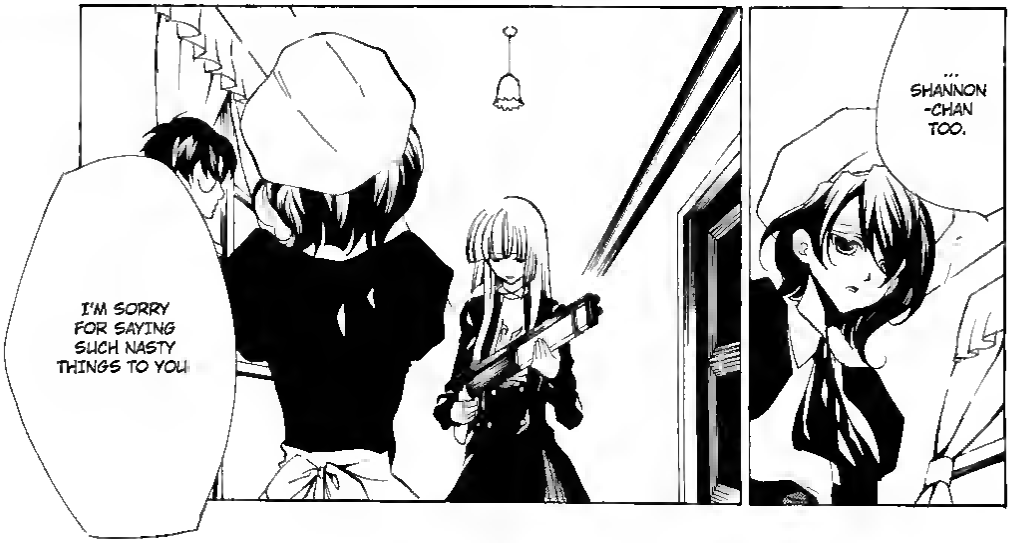
.....
...WELL THEN, IF YOU WOULD EXCUSE US.
...GOHDA, SHANNON, LET'S GO.
...THEN WE WILL BE STANDING BY IN THE KITCHEN. IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, PLEASE CALL FOR US AT ANY TIME.
CHAPTER 22: [UNDELIVERABLE
RED TEXT]

.....
IF YOU EVER FIND YOURSELVES WISHING FOR A WARM MEAL, THEN I, GOHDA, WILL PREPARE THE BEST CUISINE FOR YOU AT ANY TIME.
...YEAH...
I'D LOVE IT IF YOU COULD COOK TOMORROW'S LUNCH.
...THANKS FOR EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE...


YOUR COOKING WAS MY ONLY PLEASURE ON ROKKENJIMA.


I'M SORRY FOR SAYING SUCH NASTY THINGS TO YOU.
...SHANNON-CHAN TOO.

..YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORGIVE ME COME TOMORROW MORNING...
BUT
...OF COURSE.
LET ME APOLOGIZE TO YOU ONCE MORE WHEN THE TIME COMES.
...THANK YOU VERY MUCH...
!

...I'M GOING WITH THEM.
A. .ANIKI.
.....!
BATTLER-KUN, YOU STAY IN THE PARLOR WITH AUNT ROSA. THAT'S THE SAFEST PLACE TO BE RIGHT NOW
...I DON'T THINK IT'S ALL THAT SAFE TO BE OUTSIDE THE PARLOR
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T LEAVE HER THERE WITHOUT ME.

I KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE HOW PURE YOUR HEART IS, BATTLER-KUN.
I DON'T WANT TO SUSPECT ANYONE...
.....
...YEAH.
...IT'S NOT LIKE... I SUSPECT SHANNON-CHAN OR THE OTHER SERVANTS... NO, I DON'T SUSPECT ANYONE AT ALL...
ANIKI...
NO ONE WILL CONDEMN YOU. ...NO ONE.

BECAUSE, EVEN THOUGH MARIA'S SMALL, SHE'S A WITCH.
LIU-! DON'T WORRY.
MARIA WILL PROTECT BATTLER. ...IF HE'S WITH MARIA, EVEN BEATRICE CAN'T LAY A HAND ON HIM!

...ROSA-SAMA. WE WILL TAKE OUR LEAVE NOW.
YEAH. ...WE'LL LEAVE BATTLER-KUN TO YOU, MARIA-CHAN.

YEAH...
HAH ...

...YOU REALLY CAN'T TRUST THAT FURNITURE.

WHO WOULD HONESTLY BELIEVE THAT?
WHA...
THERE ARE ONLY FIVE MASTER KEYS?

THERE'S OBVIOUSLY A DUPLICATE KEY.
AS IF I COULD BELIEVE THAT THEY'D SINCERELY GIVE UP ALL THEIR KEYS ...!!

NO WAY ...!
W... WHEN THEY LEFT THEIR KEYS HERE... IT WASN'T JUST THEIR KEYS THAT THEY LOST...
YOU DISGRACED IT AND TRAMPLED IT...
YOU MADE ALL THEIR HARD WORK UP UNTIL TODAY FOR NOTHING...
AND IN THE END YOU MADE THEM GIVE UP THEIR KEYS.
AND AFTER ALL THAT... YOU STILL CAN'T TRUST THEM...?!

I KNOW THERE ARE FIVE MASTER KEYS BECAUSE THEY'RE ALL IN THIS BAG,
THAT'S JUST... TOO MUCH ...!!
BUT YOU CAN'T PROVE THAT THERE AREN'T MORE THAN THESE FIVE!
IT'S A DEVIL'S PROOF! THERE ARE ONLY FIVE MASTER KEYS?!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO PROVE!

STOP IT! JUST STOP...
ONLY A DEMON OR A WITCH COULD PROVE THAT!!
UWAAA

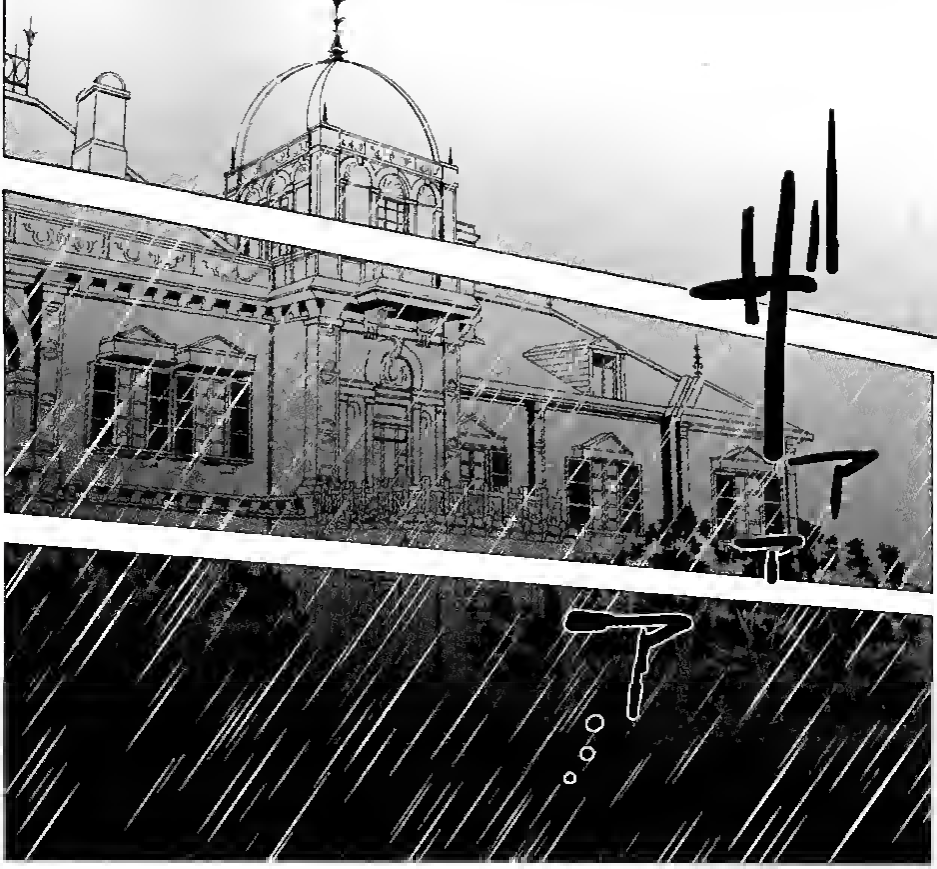
TELL HER THAT WE DON'T HAVE TO SUSPECT ANYONE!
PLEASE, BEATRICE! APPEAR IN FRONT OF AUNT ROSA RIGHT NOW!
THEN TELL HER IN RED THAT "THERE ARE ONLY FIVE MASTER KEYS"! A WITCH LIKE YOU COULD PROVE IT!

HOW STRANGE. NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I SAY IT, IT WON'T REACH ROSA.
...HMMM, IT SEEMS SHE CAN'T HEAR ME BECAUSE A CERTAIN SOMEONE STILL DENIES MY EXISTENCE.
THERE ARE ONLY FIVE MASTER KEYS. THERE ARE ONLY FIVE MASTER KEYS.

I'LL ACCEPT IT!! I'LL ACCEPT YOU!
SO JUST STOP THIS... STOP IT...!!
THEN PROVE IT! SWEAR FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART THAT YOU'LL BECOME MY FURNITURE! CAN YOU DO IT?
TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES,
BECOME NAKED,
THEN I'LL APPEAR AND SAY IT IN RED!
THEN KNEEL AND LET YOUR TONGUE CRAWL ACROSS MY SHOES.
I'LL TELL ROSA THAT THERE ARE ONLY FIVE MASTER KEYS!!

THEN YOU IMMEDIATELY DENIED IT AND FELT ASHAMED OF YOURSELF, RIIIIIIIIGHT?!
FOR JUST ONE INSTANT, YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE OKAY TO LICK MY SHOES, DIDN'T YOU?
BUT THAT'S ALRIGHT. YOU'RE STARTING TO WAVER A BIT, AREN'T YOU?
OH, BUT I UNDERSTAND. THERE'S NO WAY ONE AS PRIDEFUL AS YOURSELF COULD SIMPLY THROW AWAY HIS DIGNITY.

USHI-
RO-
MIYA
BATT-
LEEE-
EEER!!
JUST
LOOKING
AT THAT
EXPRES-
SION OF
YOURS
MAKES
ME FEEL
ABSO-
LUTELY
WOOON-
DERFUL!!



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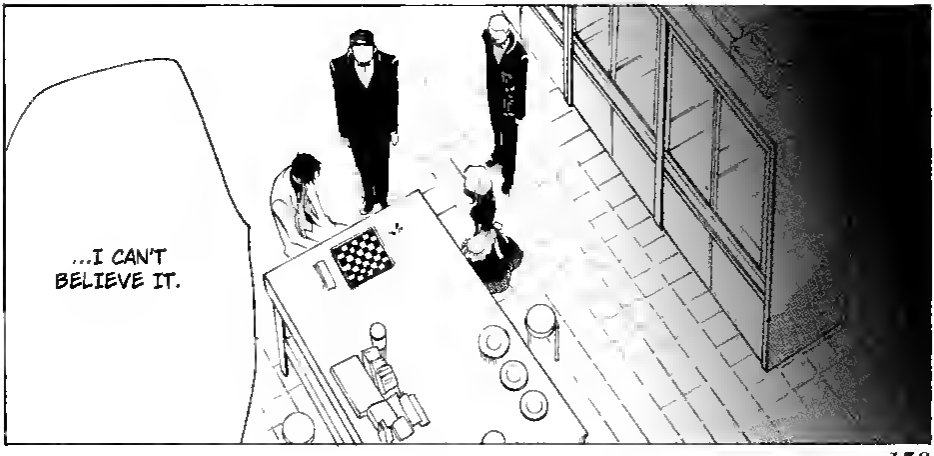
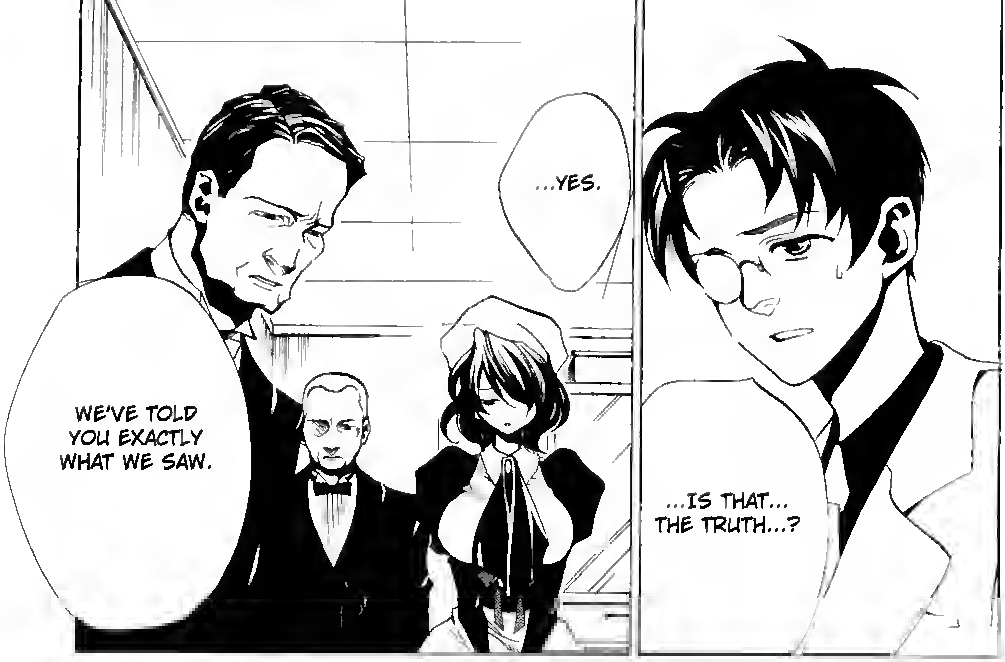
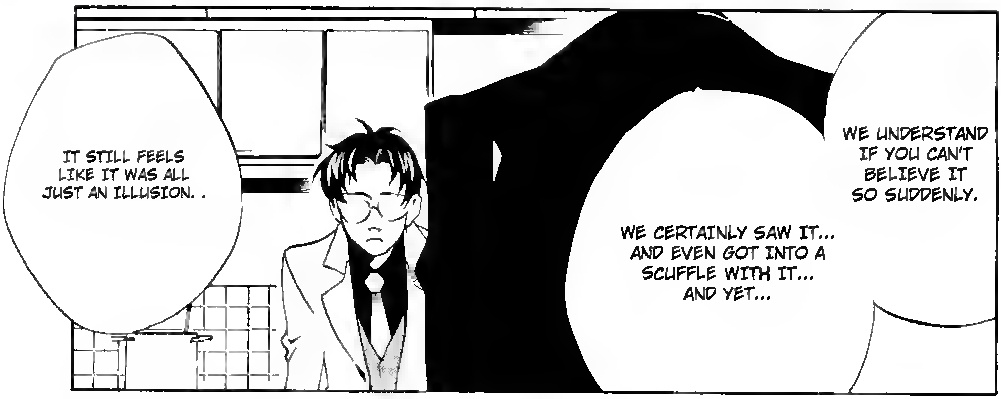



...YES.
WE'VE TOLD YOU EXACTLY WHAT WE SAW.
...IS THAT... THE TRUTH...?

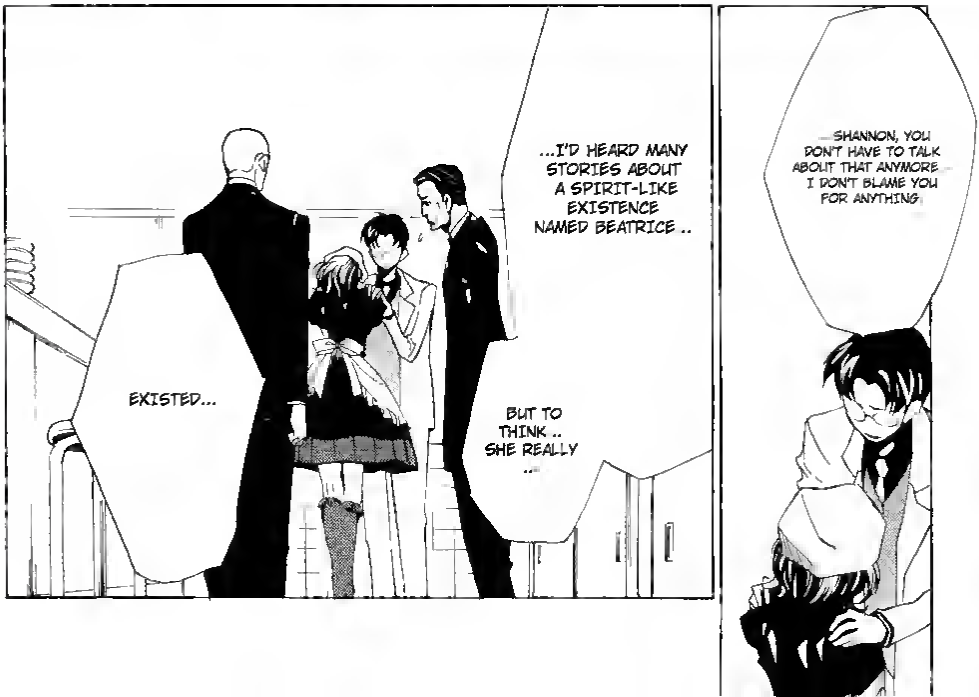

IT STILL FEELS LIKE IT WAS ALL JUST AN ILLUSION. .
WE UNDERSTAND IF YOU CAN'T BELIEVE IT SO SUDDENLY.
WE CERTAINLY SAW IT... AND EVEN GOT INTO A SCUFFLE WITH IT... AND YET...

IF YOU'D TOLD HER, IT PROBABLY WOULD'VE JUST MADE THINGS WORSE...
I SEE... NO WONDER YOU COULDN'T TELL AUNT ROSA ABOUT IT IN DETAIL...

...LET'S REWIND THE CONVERSATION A BIT
...SHANNON, YOU SAID THAT WHEN YOU STARTED TO THINK KANON-KUN MIGHT BE AN IMPOSTOR, YOU WENT TO GET A SPIDER'S WEB? WHY DID YOU DO THAT?
BECAUSE OF THAT, SPIDER WEBS WERE TREASURED AS A CHARM AGAINST EVIL SPIRITS. THERE'S A LOT OF FOLKLORE ABOUT THEM.
SO THEN... IT JUST OCCURRED TO ME...
...A VERY LONG TIME AGO, EVIL SPIRITS LIVED ON THIS ISLAND, AND THEY FEARED SPIDER WEBS
...KUMASAWA-SAN TOLD ME ABOUT IT IN THE PAST.

I'M SURE...
...WELL, SPIDERS ARE USEFUL INSECTS... I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF PEOPLE BELIEVED THAT SORT OF THING
AND IT BECAME THE POWER TO REVIVE BEATRICE-SAMA...
AND THEN... WHEN THE SPIRIT MIRROR WAS BROKEN, THAT POWER WAS REVIVED...
WAS BEING SEALED BY THAT TORII SHRINE.
THAT THE POWER OF THOSE EVIL SPIRITS...

...THIS IS ALL... ALL BECAUSE I WAS SO WEAK... AND DID SUCH A FOOLISH THING...


...I'D HEARD MANY STORIES ABOUT A SPIRIT-LIKE EXISTENCE NAMED BEATRICE ..
EXISTED...
BUT TO THINK .. SHE REALLY ..
SHANNON, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THAT ANYMORE I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR ANYTHING

BEATRICE-SAMA HAS BEEN IN THIS MANSION THE WHOLE TIME...
SHE HAD LOST HER POWER... AND COULDN'T APPEAR IN PHYSICAL FORM... BUT SHE'S ALWAYS "EXISTED"...
...DIDN'T THE WITCH WHO SPOKE TO YOU SAY THAT SHE LOST HER POWER BECAUSE OF THAT MIRROR?
...I THINK SHE EXPLAINED A LITTLE BIT TO ME... BUT I DON'T REMEMBER IT VERY WELL...
...I THINK SHE SAID THAT SHE CAN'T RELEASE HER POWERS WHEN THAT MIRROR IS AROUND.

IT'S PROBABLY A BIT DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE THAT WAS IN THE SHRINE, BUT...
...COME TO THINK OF IT...
I'VE HEARD IT'S A SPIRIT MIRROR.. THAT HOLDS A VERY STRONG POWER OF MAGIC RESISTANCE..
I'VE HEARD THAT MADAM OWNED A SPIRIT MIRROR AS A SORT OF CHARM.
OH? AUNT NATSUHI HAD SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
YES. I BELIEVE IT WAS A MEMENTO OF HER GRANDFATHER OR SOMETHING OF THE SORT...

.....!
SO THERE'S A CHANCE THAT IT'S NOT JUST AN ORDINARY MIRROR.
I'VE HEARD AUNT NATSUHI CAME FROM A FAMILY OF SHINTO PRIESTS.
...IF WE HAVE THAT MIRROR MAYBE WE'LL BE ABLE TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST BEATRICE

WE WON'T RESOLVE ANYTHING BY JUST SITTING AROUND. ...EVEN IF IT'S JUST FOR PEACE OF MIND... IT'S WORTH A TRY.
I-IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY... SHE KEPT IT SAFELY HIDDEN AWAY IN A TREASURE BOX...!
...I CAN ONLY HOPE THIS WILL ...
...IF OUR OPPONENT IS PART OF THE OCCULT, THEN WE HAVE TO FIGHT BACK WITH OCCULT METHODS!
TO AUNT NATSUHI'S ROOM!
HEAL THE WOUNDS IN SHANNON'S HEART./..
LET'S GO

B-BUT, THE DOOR TO MADAM'S ROOM IS LOCKED...!
...AUNT NATSUHI PROBABLY WALKED AROUND WITH THE KEY...
...SO IT SHOULD BE IN THE CHAPEL...
ALONG WITH AUNT NATSUHI'S CORPSE...!
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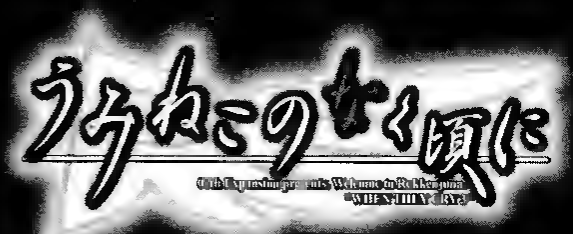
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Episode2: Turn of the golden witch

SO IT SHOULD BE IN THE CHAPEL ALONG WITH AUNT NATSUHI'S CORPSE...!
AUNT NATSUHI PROBABLY WALKED AROUND WITH THE KEY...
CHAPTER 23: [SPIRIT MIRROR]
LET'S HURRY!
SHANNON, GET A FLASHLIGHT!
RIGHT AWAY...
GOHDA-SAN, FIND SOMETHING THAT CAN BREAK GLASS!

HUH ...?
I CANNOT GO WITH YOU.

Y...YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT! SURELY YOU REALIZE HOW DANGEROUS IT IS TO BE ALONE IN THIS MANSION RIGHT NOW!

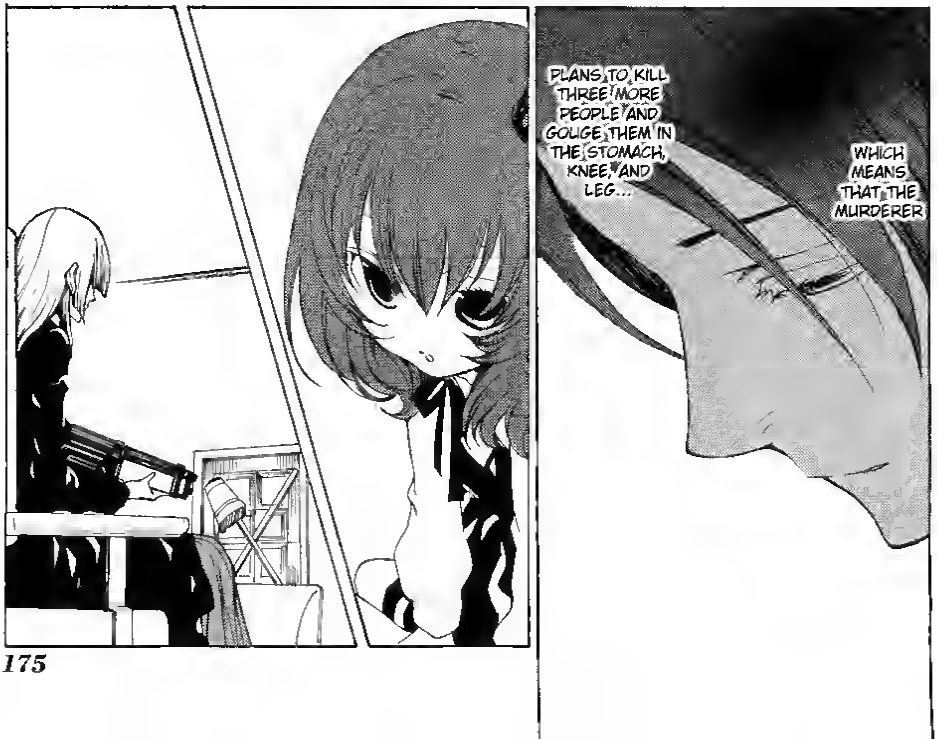
IF NO ONE WERE TO BE HERE WHEN AN ORDER IS GIVEN, IT WOULD SHAME ME AS THE HEAD OF THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY'S SERVANTS.

...I CANNOT GO. ...I MUST REMAIN HERE SO THAT THE MASTER CAN CALL FOR ME AT ANY TIME.
GENJI-SAMA...
...ARE YOU SURE?
...YES.

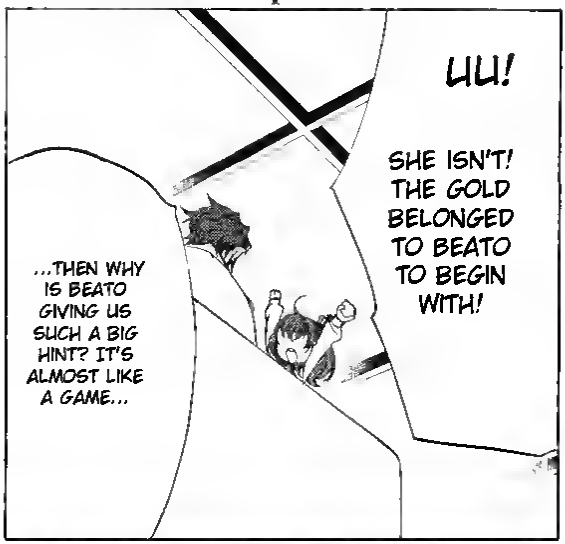
THE EPITAPH OF THE GOLD...IS IT...
そこに黄
鍵を手にせし者は
以下に従いて黄金郷へ
第一の晩に、鍵の選び大人を生贄に捧げよ。
第二の晩に、残されし者は寄り添う二人を引き裂け。
第三の晩に、頭をえぐりて殺せ。
第四の晩に、胸をえぐりて殺せ。
第五の晩に、腹をえぐりて殺せ。
第六の晩に、陰をえぐりて殺せ。
第七の晩に、足をえぐりて殺せ。
第八の晩に、魔女は滅び、誰も生き残れはしな
I DON'T GET IT AT ALL...
THE LINES ABOUT THE FIRST AND SECOND TWILIGHTS
ARE CLEARLY HINTING AT THE MURDER OF THE SIX PEOPLE IN THE CHAPEL AND THE MURDER OF KANON-KUN AND JESSICA.

第二の晩に、残れし者は、祭り添う二人を引き裂け。
第三の晩に、残れし者は、誉れ高き我が名を讃えよ。
第四の晩に、頭をえぐりて殺せ。
第五の晩に、胸をえぐりて殺せ。
第六の晩に、腹をえぐりて殺せ。
第七の晩に、膝をえぐりて殺せ。
第八の晩に、足をえぐりて殺せ。
第九の晩に、魔女は蘇り、誰も生き残れはしない。
は終わり、黄金の郷に至るだろう。

IF WE KEEP FOLLOWING THIS PATTERN...



HAAH...
O...OKAY. SORRY, MARIA.
UU! BATTLER! THINK ABOUT IT WITH MARIA!
NO ONE ELSE WILL DIE.
IF THE EPITAPH IS SOLVED, THEN BEATO'S CEREMONY WILL END.
...HEY, MARIA.
WHAT DID BEATRICE SAY SHE'D DO IF WE SOLVED THIS AGAIN?


UU!
SHE ISN'T! THE GOLD BELONGED TO BEATO TO BEGIN WITH!
...THEN WHY IS BEATO GIVING US SUCH A BIG HINT? IT'S ALMOST LIKE A GAME...

IS THAT REALLY TRUE? SHE'S THE ONE WHO MADE THAT RULE, RIGHT? AND SHE'S AIMING FOR GRANDFATHER'S HIDDEN GOLD...

EVERY KIND OF MAGIC HAS SOME KIND OF RISK OR WEAK POINT.
MAGIC REQUIRES A RISK.

IF YOU'RE NOT PREPARED TO LOSE BIG, THEN YOU CAN'T WIN BIG.
RISK...IS IT...
THAT'S NOT SOMETHING I'D IMMEDIATELY ASSOCIATE WITH MAGIC... BUT I GUESS IT MAKES SENSE IF YOU THINK OF IT LIKE A GAMBLE...

SHE MUST BE COMMITTING THESE SERIAL MURDERS BECAUSE SHE HAS SOME SORT OF OBJECTIVE.
...RISK...
EXACTLY. THAT'S WHY IF THE RIDDLE IS SOLVED, THE CEREMONY WILL DEFINITELY BE SUSPENDED.
SO WHY WOULD SHE PRESENT THE CONDI-TIONS FOR HER OWN DEFEAT ...?
...I DON'T GET IT.
L
BECAUSE IF SHE BROKE HER PROMISE, THERE WOULD BE NO RISK.

I DON'T GET IT...
I DON'T GET IT...
IT'S ALMOST LIKE SHE DOESN'T CARE WHETHER SHE WINS OR LOSES...

...IT'S PAINFUL NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I SEE IT...

SLIP
...MADAM, PLEASE EXCUSE ME...
...I FOUND IT...! THIS IS THE KEY TO MADAM'S ROOM!
!
CLICK

SHA...
SHANNON
...!!
SHANNON-
SAN!!
!
HUH
...?

ARE THESE... THE GOLDEN BUTTERFLIES YOU TALKED ABOUT...?!
KYAA AA!
EEP...
HURRY ...
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

GEORGE-SAMA... HURRY...!!
KUH... IT'S STUCK...
KU KU KU KU
!!
...BE...

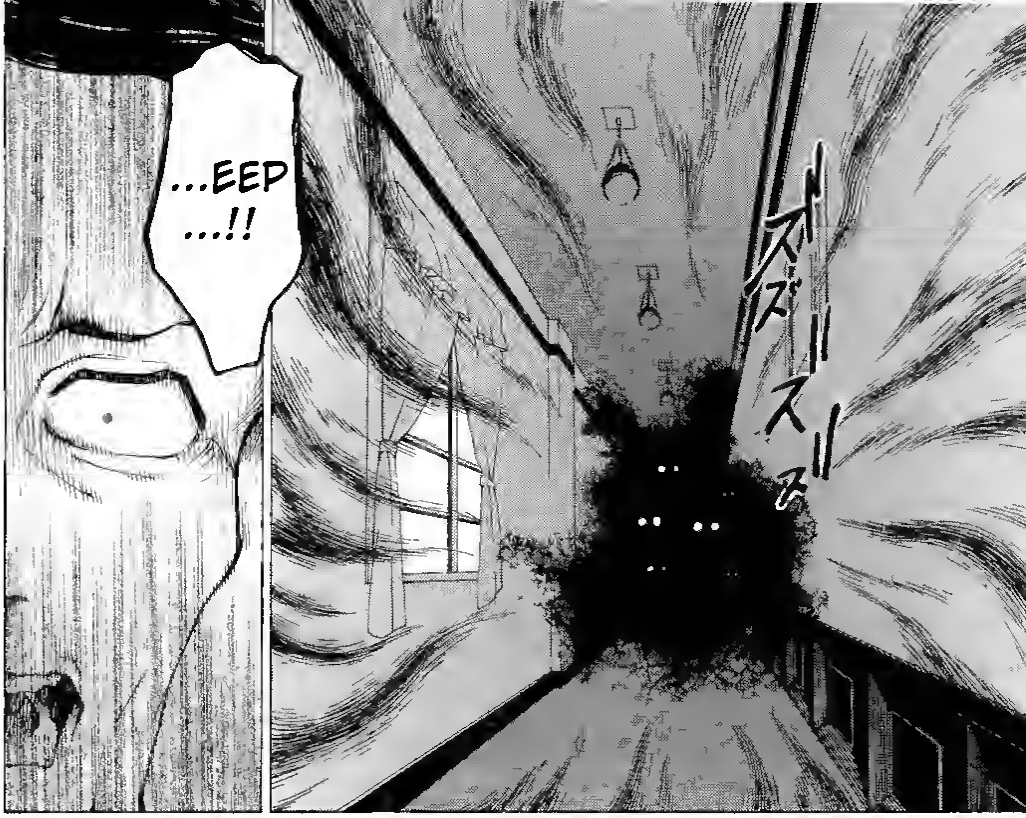
BEATRICE
...?!

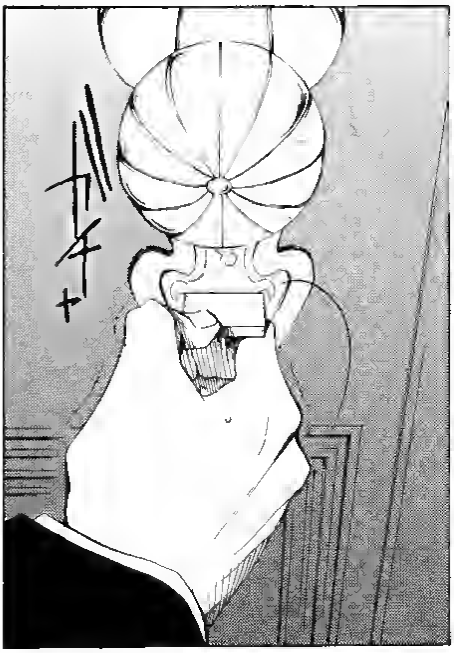
IT IS ALMOST TIME FOR DINNER, IS IT NOT?
I MUST WARMLY WELCOME YOU ALL TO MY SPLENDID DINNER TABLE.
HOW SUITABLE THAT THERE ARE THREE OF YOU...! THIS IS QUITE CONVENIENT ...!!
...
...EE ...P...

カチャ
IT OPENED ...!
HURRY! YOU CAN'T STOP RUNNING...!

WHERE IS IT?! YOU SAID IT WAS INSIDE A TREASURE BOX, RIGHT?!
I... I IMAGINE IT'S PROBABLY IN THE DRESSER OR NEXT TO THE BED...!

!
I...IT MIGHT BE THIS BOX...!
...WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO LOOK FOR THE KEY... LET'S BREAK IT!
BUT IT'S LOCKED! I CAN'T OPEN IT...!
SORRY ...AUNT NATSUHI...!
!!


...EEP ...!!
ズズ!!ズズ


カチャ

...KUH.
GEORGE-SAMA... PLEASE HURRY!!

I...
IT WON'T LOCK...!!
!!?
GEORGE-SAMA... HURRY...!!

Ah.
HEE
HEE
HEE
HEE
SO
CUTE...

YOUR LIFE FLASHING BEFORE YOUR EYES...
EEP ...
HEY... CAN YOU SEE IT...?
A AH...

YOU'RE
DONE
NOW.

GO
...

GOHDA-SAN
...!!
ゴッ??

うみねこのなく頃に EP24 おわり

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